



ONE WORLD CALENDAR FOR ONE WORLD

VOL. XX

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No. 3

BECAUSE of the unexpected outbreak of the Korean conflict, 25 June, which called for immediate international attention, this Association and a number of delegates of the United Nations deemed it inadvisable to present The World Calendar before the Fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations this September. Thus, the remarkable and highly significant year of 1950, marking the mid-century, was allowed to pass without recording the approval of the much-needed and beneficial reform of the calendar.

Since the beginning of modern calendar reform initiated by Abbé Marco Mastrofini, a Roman Catholic priest, in 1834, *116 years have rolled by with the hoped-for goal still deferred*. However, hope ever blooms in the human mind, heart, soul and spirit. Like St. Paul, we may be troubled but not distressed, perplexed but not despairing. The goal is ever bright.

This year 1950 marked outstanding endorsements of The World Calendar by the Royal Canadian Institute, the Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labour, the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, the Canadian Telephone Employees' Association; the Colombian Academy of Exact Sciences, Physical and Natural Chemistry; and in the United States the Association of Consulting Management Engineers, Inc., and approval of many American businesses as shown in the statistical survey printed on page 131 of this issue.

It is logical to conclude, therefore, that 1956 will see the adoption of The World Calendar internationally—and this, *121 years after* the introduction of modern calendar reform that marks the passing of four generations.

We are confidently expecting, therefore, the adoption of The World Calendar in the *first decade of the second half* of the Twentieth Century. To this end, interest must not be allowed to lag; on the contrary, activity must be spurred and increased.

There is every reason to believe that during the next immediate years, peoples, governments and nations will realize the benefits and will demand the adoption of this orderly, reasonable and steady calendar. One that will aid them in their many personal, occupational, communal, national and international affairs. For, where there is no order and stability, the ways of life are handicapped and activities impeded, retarding normal and steady progress.

Journal of

CALENDAR REFORM

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The PRESENT CALENDAR and Its Effects on AMERICAN BUSINESS

by Professor John M. Firestone
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Professor Firestone, who has been teaching in the College of the City of New York for twenty years, at the request of The World Calendar Association conducted a survey among the membership of the Controllers Institute of America on the effect of the present calendar on American business. An abstract of this survey follows, and should Journal readers desire a copy of the complete survey this will be furnished upon request. The Association wishes to express herewith its gratitude to Professor Firestone as well as to the Controllers Institute for this excellent and highly significant survey.

Purpose

FOR a long time, many statisticians, accountants, economists and business men have thought that our present calendar has certain irregularities which create difficulties that are costly to business. However, there are many others who have been troubled by the vagaries of the calendar but who have accepted the calendar as inevitable. The faults of the calendar as well as its blessings were taken for granted with the assumption that nothing could be done to correct its shortcomings.

The World Calendar Association therefore sponsored this survey of an important segment of American business to determine the nature and extent of the problems created by the present calendar from the viewpoint of the business man.

It would have been desirable to develop estimates of the cost of calendar variations, but accounting systems do not lend themselves to this type of analysis. The expense involved and the time required to make such studies preclude their inclusion in this, a pilot survey.

How the Survey Was Conducted

The Controllers Institute of America kindly consented to cooperate in this study by allowing its membership to be polled. Its membership consists, in the main, of controllers of the largest corporations in this country representing all lines of economic endeavor. Controllers, by virtue of their duties and eminent position, are particularly qualified to answer the questions that are raised by the problem of an irregular calendar.

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Dear Member of Controllers Institute:

A revised time system to provide a better-balanced stabilized calendar comes before the General Assembly of the UNITED NATIONS for consideration at its next regular session convening 19 September, 1950. For your information, the proposed World Calendar appears on the reverse side of this sheet.

It would be desirable to ascertain what the present calendar has been costing American business in inconvenience, mis-judgments and dollars. For example, Prentice-Hall in its Labor Newsletter of 20 December, 1949, gives the following interpretation to the new wage-hour law: An employee, paid the minimum wage of 75 cents per hour for a 40-hour week would receive for 52 weeks of 40 hours each an annual salary of \$1560, or \$130 per month. But because March 1950, for example, has 23 working days the minimum wage in that month would have to be \$138. The employer must then pay either a fixed monthly salary high enough to cover the maximum number of workdays or pay a differential in those pay periods in which the number of workdays requires it.

A speaker at a recent business gathering expressed concern over a department store sales decline of 25% during the first week in January 1950 as compared with the first week in 1949. An important detail he had overlooked was the fact that stores were closed Monday, 2 January, 1950—giving one less sales day. That, alone, would account for most of the decline in volume.

How often do such situations arise under our present "time system"? Since the conduct of all business is vitally affected by the calendar, and the opportunity is now presented to rectify such defects once and for all, it would be appreciated if you would answer the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the enclosed envelope.

The World Calendar Association, a non-profit organization which is carrying all costs of this study, is indebted to the Committee on Cooperation with Government, of the Controllers Institute, for the addressing of these envelopes to its members.

Yours very truly,

John M. Firestone
Department of Economics,
College of the City of New York
(Research Consultant to The
World Calendar Association.)

Editor's Note: Because of the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, it was deemed inadvisable to bring The World Calendar before the United Nations General Assembly at this time. The Association is now working for United Nations' action in 1951.

20 March, 1950

Approximately one-sixth of the membership replied: There was no follow-up to the initial request, nor was it possible to sub-sample the non-respondents, even though it was recognized that this would be highly desirable in assaying the attitude of the non-respondents.

The returned questionnaires were classified in broad categories to determine whether the field of business activity accounted for any significant differences in attitude towards the calendar.

The classification used was as follows:

Manufacturing

Food and Tobacco Products

Textile Products and Apparel

Lumber, Furniture and Paper Products

Chemical and Drug Products

Primary Metal Products

Fabricated Metal Products

Machinery and Transportation Equipment

Miscellaneous Manufacturing

Distribution

Public Utility and Railroad Companies

Finance and Insurance Companies

Miscellaneous Companies (not elsewhere classified)

Anonymous Replies

Brief Discussion of Findings

Of the 538 respondents to the questionnaire, 466 or 86.6 per cent—an overwhelming majority—indicated that the present calendar created difficulties for them. These difficulties ranged from minor annoyances to such major problems as required the adoption of a modified calendar for internal use in the intelligent handling of business affairs. This often resulted in still further confusion because the modified calendar conflicted

with the conventional calendar in general use.

Of the 466 respondents indicating difficulty with the present calendar, 437 or 93.8 per cent indicated that a stabilized calendar would alleviate these difficulties. The other 72 respondents (13.4 per cent of the total responses) were divided as follows: 57 (10.6 per cent) said they had no difficulties with the calendar, 6 (1.1 per cent) did not know, and 9 (1.7 per cent) returned questionnaires which did not answer either question 1 or 2 and which could not be tabulated.

It must be pointed out that no generalization about American industry or even about the membership of the Controllers Institute of America as a whole can be made on the basis of this survey. It must be considered only as a pilot study which is probably indicative of the kind of response one might expect of a scientifically designed sample of the entire American business population. On the other hand, it must be borne in mind that more than 20 billions of dollars in capitalization is represented in the response to this survey, and of this amount, more than 18.5 billions of dollars favored calendar revision. Despite the limitations of the sample on which this survey is based, the fact that so important a segment of American business does have difficulties with the calendar must be given full consideration.

The responses by broad industrial categories did not differ from each other significantly except in minor aspects (problems of firms engaged in manufacturing as contrasted with those engaged in distribution). However, the proportion of firms within each classification experi-

encing calendar difficulties was surprisingly uniform.

The results of this survey should be highly gratifying to those seeking calendar reform, for the indication seems to be that this important segment of Amer-

ican business needs and wants calendar reform. This pilot study might serve as the basis for a more intensive and extensive survey of all of American business to get a cross-section of the attitude of all business toward this problem.

Replies Received

	NUMBER	PER CENT
Questionnaires mailed:	3,422	100.0
Replies received:	538	15.7

Question 1. Do irregularities in the present calendar cause any difficulties in your business?

For all replies received:

ANSWER GIVEN	NUMBER	PER CENT
Yes	430	79.9
No	60	11.2
Don't Know	11	2.0
Other*	37	6.9
Total	538	100.0

* Returned questionnaire in which Questions 1 and 2 were not answered.

After editing the questionnaires, the following additional information with respect to Question 1 is available:

Of those replying "yes," 6 indicated no specific difficulty.

Of those replying "no," 3 indicated specific difficulties as enumerated in Question 2.

Of those replying "don't know," 5 indicated specific difficulties as enumerated in Question 2.

Of the others, 28 indicated specific difficulties as enumerated in Question 2.

Thus, on an edited basis:

	NUMBER	PER CENT
Yes	466	86.6
No	57	10.6
Don't Know	6	1.1
Other	9	1.7
Total	538	100.0

CLASSIFIED BY TYPE OF COMPANY

Classification	Number of Responses	Per Cent Distribution				
		Yes	No	Don't Know	Other	Total
Food and Tobacco	45	86.7	6.7	4.4	2.2	100.0
Textiles and Apparel	26	92.3	0.0	0.0	7.7	100.0
Lumber and Paper	24	83.4	8.3	0.0	8.3	100.0
Chemicals and Drugs	29	89.7	10.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
Primary Metals	18	88.8	5.6	0.0	5.6	100.0
Fabricated Metals	29	86.3	6.9	3.4	3.4	100.0
Machinery	111	85.6	10.8	.9	2.7	100.0
Misc. Mfg.	67	83.6	11.9	0.0	4.5	100.0
Distribution	35	94.2	2.9	0.0	2.9	100.0
Public Util. and R. R.	28	85.7	14.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
Finance and Insurance	32	78.1	21.9	0.0	0.0	100.0
Miscellaneous	41	80.5	14.6	4.9	0.0	100.0
Anonymous	53	83.0	15.1	0.0	1.9	100.0
Total	538	86.6	10.6	1.1	1.7	100.0

RESPONDENTS' COMMENTS ON PRESENT CALENDAR DIFFICULTIES

Note: No question with respect to the 13-month calendar versus The World Calendar was included in the questionnaire, but 36 respondents made reference to it. Some are actually using it—others suggested it as a possible substitute for the present calendar.

It is interesting to note that many of those using the 13-month calendar expressed dissatisfaction with it for a number of reasons. Others, who had used it, were forced to abandon it.

"Use of 4 quarters of 13 weeks, necessitates providing for extra week once every six years."

"Quantity discount on monthly basis affected by number of selling days."

"Coordination of monthly sales commissions with mill production."

"Considerable amount of detail in computation of accruals and deferrals."

"We have six paid holidays—different when holiday falls on Saturday."

"Used 13 month calendar—dropped because inconsistent with conventional calendar."

"Meetings of associations and lodges."

"Shifting of payroll due dates to different days of the week."

"Frequent cause of confusion in analyzing economic data."

"Excessive cost of special forms covering weekly periods."

ESTIMATES OF CAPITALIZATION IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS
REPRESENTED BY RESPONDENTS

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Reply to question 1</i>		
			<i>Yes (millions of \$)</i>	<i>No (millions of \$)</i>	<i>Total (millions of \$)</i>
Manufacturing					
Food and Tobacco	45		\$600	\$150	\$750
Textiles and Apparel	26		300	0	300
Lumber and Paper	24		400	20	420
Chemicals and Drugs	29		1,200	40	1,240
Primary Metals	18		2,200	5	2,205
Fabricated Metals	29		250	150	400
Machinery	111		3,400	100	3,500
Miscellaneous Mfg.	67		5,500	900	6,400
Distribution	35		1,000	10	1,010
Public Utilities and R. R.	28		3,300	500	3,800
Finance and Insurance	32		(1)	(1)	(1)
Miscellaneous	41		400	500	900
Anonymous	53		—	—	—
Total	538		\$18,550	\$2,375	\$20,925

(1) Capitalization inestimable because of large number of mutual companies in this category.

RESPONDENTS' COMMENTS (continued)

- "Social security periods." [Probably due to variable number of weekdays per month]
- "Tax Reports."
- "Overhead fixed in amount varies on a per day basis according to number of days in month."
- "Inventory shutdown on December 31 bad when at mid-week."
- "Variable vacation close down schedules."
- "Causes difficulties in budgeting and comparisons with actual."
- "For those paid on a monthly basis, personal budgeting is more complicated."
- "On marooned days workers lay off that day causing lag in production schedules."
- "Shifting time basis for accounting and financial reports, procedures and controls."
- "Employee vacations where holiday falls on mid-week date, we allow an extra day or pay for it."
- "Week to week comparisons."
- "Comparison of corresponding week in two years."

- "We have gone to biweekly payroll to decrease confusion."
- "Meter reading." (Utility Company)
- "Cycle billing." (Utility Company)
- "Dividend preparation."
- "Royalty payments."
- "Cost of clerical work."
- "Difficult to schedule semester so that each course has quota of hours." (University)
- "Interferes with dispatching trucks." (Shipping Company)
- "Our business depends upon statistical comparisons which are affected by irregular calendar."
- "Must constantly modify our thinking on many management problems because of calendar."
- "Legal holidays differing between countries."

TYPICAL COMMENTS MADE BY RESPONDENTS

Out of 430 favorable to The World Calendar

- "We would like to see The World Calendar adopted."
- "Adoption of World Calendar would materially improve statistical reporting."
- "The World Calendar, if adopted, would of course work even better than our present makeshift system." (Uses 13-month calendar)
- "World Calendar would be desirable." (Uses 4 equal quarter calendar)
- "Am in favor of change."
- "Since World Calendar was first proposed, have been sincerely in support of it. This is a much needed change in an otherwise modern economy."
- "Heartily for the idea."
- "Savings probably substantial—would improve morale and efficiency. Let's have it!"
- "But still I like The World Calendar." (Indicated no calendar difficulties)
- "Savings would be large."
- "Downright enjoyment of long week-ends."
- "Would lessen confusion and make for better planning for production and vacation schedules. Would be better for business and private lives."
- "Most urgently desire adoption of The World Calendar."
- "This World Calendar would be the greatest boon to business and the accountant since the first century."
- "Intangibly valuable results of more meaningful figures."

Out of 60 unfavorable to The World Calendar

- "There is enough monotony in the world without making the calendar monotonous."
- "World Calendar would be helpful but I prefer 13-month calendar."
- "World Calendar still has holiday problem."
- "World Calendar does not stabilize work days."

"Changing calendar would not help us in any way."

"Present calendar good enough for me."

"We operate on a daily basis."

"World Calendar has a varying number of Saturdays so month to month comparisons are invalid." (Department Store)

"In shipping business we operate on a terminated voyage basis."

"Proposed calendar involves too many double holidays (Sunday and Monday)."

"Holidays still occur in mid-week (Memorial day) and there would be marooned days (Thanksgiving)."

"We need uniform work days—not weekdays."

"We prefer months with equal number of Thursdays and Fridays."

"Opposed to month ending in middle of week."

BUSINESS OPINION

August 29, 1950

The Honorable Dean Acheson
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is to express the hope in behalf of the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. that the United States delegation to the forthcoming session of the General Assembly of the United Nations will lend its support to the resolution favoring the adoption of the proposed World Calendar.

Assuming that your interest lies in the experience of specific enterprises rather than in general principles, I shall name two important respects in which we and probably all other seasonal resort operators would benefit from the proposed reform of the calendar.

(1) At present comparisons of business volume with that of identical dates in preceding years are thrown awry by the fact that the days of the week are different. This affects week-ends and holidays. Thus, comparison of volume for a two-day period of identical dates may in one year involve Saturday-Sunday, which is a week-end, and in another year Sunday-Monday, which is not. Comparisons by dates are therefore meaningless in a type of business where week-end peaks are characteristic. Also, in one year a given month may have more week-ends than in another, thereby throwing the monthly comparisons into error.

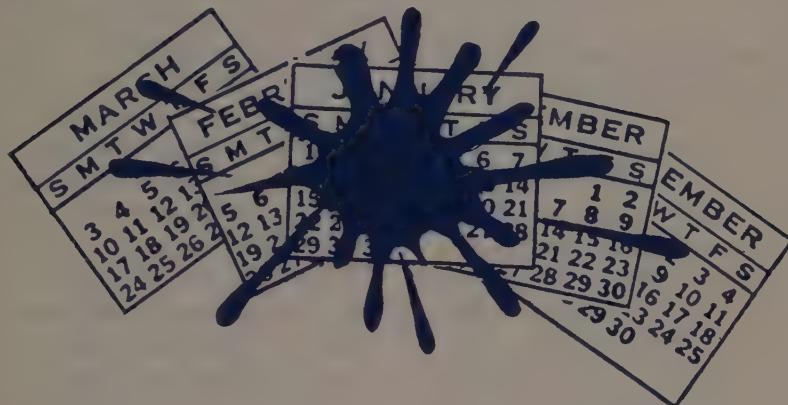
(2) Holiday periods are of primary importance to the resort and travel industry. Memorial Day falling in mid-week means nothing, but when it occurs on or near a week-end it insures capacity business.

I hope that the proposed sensible reform of the calendar will receive such support as to assure its eventual adoption.

Respectfully yours,

H. Oehlmann, Executive Vice President
Yosemite Park and Curry Co.
Yosemite National Park, California

MONTHS BLOTTED ...



... OUT — ?

THE United States Bureaus of the Budget and of Standards which have to deal with the vast accounting system of the United States, finding the present Gregorian calendar unreliable, irregular and unbalanced, have discarded it as inadequate in every way to meet present-day requirements of budgetary control and accurate statistical comparison.

It is inexplicable that this *two-thousand-year-old calendar* with its bewildering irregularities and constant shifting should still be in use today, and it is regrettable that the Government of the United States by previous action is so reluctant to improve it.

Innovations accompanying the growth of our nation have ever advanced America's development. Her ingenuity and acceptance of innovation have kept pace

with her progress. The calendar is an outstanding exception.

The annually changing calendar with its shifting days and dates; the irregular number of days in the months together with the confusing number of weekdays of each designation, such as four or five Thursdays, Fridays or Saturdays, coming in no regular order; the attendant wandering holidays; the unequal quarter-years; and years which are never comparable in their sequences; all these bring about serious disadvantages. They result in complicated recordings, difficult statistical computations and analyses, fluctuations in the paying of wages and salaries, and inconvenience in budgeting and the making of yearly plans.

Calendar Vagaries

The rebellion against the vagaries of

the Gregorian calendar by accountants and statisticians, who have to deal with the vast accounting system of the United States, is the strongest possible evidence of the wholly unsatisfactory present calendar.

The adoption of an auxiliary calendar for counting and computing periods of time by the United States Bureaus of the Budget and of Standards as well as other Federal agencies is convincing proof that the administrative circle itself finds the present calendar entirely inadequate.

These two Bureaus with other Federal agencies thus took the extreme step of blotting out months, so as to achieve a measure of stability for the one particular time-unit involved in the payment of government employees, namely, the two-week system or "fortnight" period, thereby blotting out all other units. This archaic measure—the fortnight—has now ousted all other familiar time-periods.

Gone are the months. Gone are the quarters and the half-years as we know them. Gone, too, it may be said, are the seasons as they have been recognized. Such an auxiliary vehicle of time that brushes away these well-established periods can never obtain favor as a substitute for the present calendar, bad as it admittedly is. This dull and arbitrary system of two weeks, "fortnightly" periods, has no place in the field of the calendar. It is absolutely unsuitable for general civilian use. It has no place whatsoever outside of the immediate statistical and budgetary circle of government accounts and even there its continued usage is debatable. A makeshift device, based on lopsided specialization, brings about unbalance and cannot endure. That it should expand into other fields is unthinkable.

Calendar's Purpose Manifold

Months will stay, as well as the convenient quarter- and half-year division of the years by their familiar months. Americans and other nationals will not consent to abandon the association of months which is so deeply imbued in all of man's customs. The calendar is not only for statistics and accounting but is a document that affects every phase and activity of life, relating man to national, personal and dearly cherished events. Its purpose is manifold.

Americans will not forego the *December* Christmas, the frosty snowy *January* days, the Washington and Lincoln *February* birthdays, the blustery *March*, the *April* showers which bring *May flowers*, the rare and beautiful days in *June*, our national *July* birthday, the lazy drowsy *August* days, *September*'s Labor Day, the radiant *October* colorings of nature and the *November* Thanksgiving observance.

A Rejected Calendar

The statistical auxiliary system consists of 26 fortnight two-week periods (52 weeks in a year plus one extra day), which when further divided gives 13 periods of two weeks each (28 days). Now, by the easy method of changing the words—periods, groups or weeks—into the "blotted out months," this auxiliary statistical accounting system could develop into a 13-month calendar—a decided handicap because of its indivisibility. Such a prime number as 13 should never be the basis of any system, as it is stubbornly isolated and impossible to blend or team with other numbers, being one too many or one too short.

Now what has happened to the rejected 13-month calendar?

The League of Nations' last act on calendar reform was to eliminate it and submit only The World Calendar of 12 months that received approval by 14 governments.

It was the disturbance to the months and the quarters that spelled the downfall of the 13-month calendar proposal, of which P. W. Wilson in his book, *The Romance of the Calendar*, stated, "to orderly minds its boasted symmetry can never be wholly unattractive," but of which he also said that if adopted "it would start a new movement for calendar reform." The greater expense to business and civilians that this additional 13th month would entail, as well as the extra labor involved, also contributed to its rejection.

The eminent astronomer, Camille Flammarion, when writing his report on the result of a contest for the best revision of the calendar, won by two different types of 12-month plans, wrote: "The number 12 is better adapted to human habits and needs than the number 13. Furthermore, no effort to simplify should be carried so far that it falls into monotony, and a 13-month calendar would be monotonous."

Every Date Disturbed

The disturbance for purposes of comparison, which the introduction of a 13th-month period would have produced, was undoubtedly another reason for its rejection for world-wide usage. After the 28th of January, every date as we know them would have been changed beyond recognition.

It is well to point out that vital and other general statistics are assembled on the basis of existing months and quarters. In the moving picture industry and in

the radio field quarterly and half-yearly contracts predominate, and when these are reconciled with a *quarterly system of three months or thirteen weeks* it becomes a well-nigh perfect system. Therefore when a method of time-reckoning is used that ignores these well-established and necessary time-units, there is a loss in comparability, a serious disadvantage.

The 12-month calendar is an age-old repository of treasured and enduring things which cannot be taken away. Removing any one of the familiar time-units of which the calendar is composed is like depriving man of one or more of his senses. That is what extension of the new auxiliary accounting system would do to man, rob him of his association with the months, the seasons and the convenient divisions of the year. It would not be conducive to the common good of man.

Instead of giving consent by silence to the use of this auxiliary system, would it not be the better course for the United States to assume leadership in calendar reform and take the necessary step to remove the irreconcilable use of two different measurements of time—the present calendar and an auxiliary system—and by so doing improve the general time-system for every one of us in days of stress or calm, in plenty or scarcity?

A Notable Act?

It would be a notable act were the United States to acknowledge to all nations that its Bureaus of the Budget and of Standards and other Federal agencies find it impossible to handle the business controls involved with the present changeable calendar; that while using an auxiliary method for financial evaluation of conditions, etc., it fully recognizes the

unsuitability of such an auxiliary calendar for general civilian and world-wide use; and that accordingly it advocates adoption by all nations of a calendar which within the solar year results in a maximum of equalization and adjustment of days, weeks, months and quarter-years, with a minimum of disturbance to familiar customs.

The World Calendar is the only plan which successfully fills the above specifications. Within the 12 months, pay by days and weeks, salaries by semi-months and months, reports and tax payments by equal quarterly divisions and seasons all fit in agreeably four times a year, with equal recognition and coordination of all the existing calendar units from which the present irregularities have been removed.

Wisdom decrees that The World Calendar be adopted, wherein the 91 days, 13 weeks, 3 months or one quarter-year division (associated with a seasonal period) all coordinate perfectly at the end of every quarter division—sealed and completed with the new world holiday *Worldsday*, placed at the end of the year, that is further augmented in the leap years with another world holiday *Leap-year Day*, placed in the middle of the year, in accordance with the solar year. As to the payment of wages and salaries for these one or two new civil holidays, they are treated in the same manner as are the Christmas, Thanksgiving and Independence holidays.

With The World Calendar in effect, '*Worldsday*' coming as a holiday on the last day of the year (after the close of a week) will be accepted instead of the former wandering New Year's holiday. This would confine the Christmas-New Year

holiday period from Sunday, 24 December, through Sunday, 1 January, which would be of great advantage to everyone. It would enable business and industry to return to work regularly on Monday, 2 January.

A Great Saving

In these difficult days of stress and economic strain in which the whole world finds itself, does it not become a duty and responsibility to conserve material, money, time and effort? This the perpetual foursquare World Calendar achieves admirably.

For instance, the necessity of discarding old calendars for new ones every year with attendant loss and waste from overprinting or left-over calendars is eliminated.

The annual expense for new dies would be saved as only one die will be needed which could be cut on more lasting and durable materials.

Obviously it takes time, and time is valuable, to make annual calculations of the different quarter-years which begin and end on different days of the week and have varying lengths of days (90, 91, 92, 92). A set pattern of a 91-day quarter, always beginning with a Sunday and ending with a Saturday, saves time and money, now so needlessly wasted.

Annual catalogs published by universities, colleges and schools are a great expense necessitated by our changeable calendar every year. One catalog or schedule could be used for many years under The World Calendar.

An outstanding New York newspaper, with a circulation exceeding one million, was unable to plan its issues for the following Saturday when Christmas came

on a Friday. There was no accurate gauge by which to ascertain how many columns to anticipate; there was no certainty as to how many stores would be open on Saturday. The consequence was that not only was its advertising linage off 65 per cent but that it had also overprinted 80,000 papers.

Another instance of calendar expense is as follows: In 1942 New Year's Day came on a Thursday, seriously affecting educational systems. In New York City, according to law, public schools were required to open on the day after—Friday, 2 January. Not only did this one day of teaching, before a week-end after a holiday, cost the city approximately \$22,259 for fuel and light, but it brought to parents, teachers and pupils much justifiable discontent.

Furthermore, for the year 1943 small business suffered: A drugstore estimated that calendar fluctuations wiped out two weeks' profits; a lumber mill found it negotiated a 90-day contract at no profit whatever; a food store estimated that spoilage due to calendar uncertainties cost it 10 per cent loss on its vegetable profit; an assembling plant paid 18 per cent overtime charges; a paper mill suffered 8.4 per cent over the anticipated absenteeism in six months; a dry goods store ran a loss on three different sales; and a trucker found his total pay roll upped 23 per cent overtime on "long week-ends."

To cite another example: According to Abbé Chauve-Bertrand, eminent French authority on the calendar, the *Ordo* in 1937 in a certain French diocese cost each priest 14 francs—an increase of 6 francs over the price of two years previ-

ous because of the annual calendar variations. The edition had 400 copies, and cost 14,000 francs. This meant that the cost per copy was 35 francs; so that, for each copy bought by individual priests, the diocesan authorities had to pay 21 francs. In France where the average book, unbound usually, might cost from 15 to 25 francs, 35 francs is a large sum for a book, and it is only natural that any means of reducing the cost of the *Ordo* would be welcomed.

Daily Sales Values

A Canadian banker has stated that typical cycles of daily sales values, expressed in ratios of the average day, might be:

<i>Days of Week</i>	<i>Variety Store</i>	<i>Grocery Store</i>
Monday	0.6	0.5
Tuesday	.7	.7
Wednesday	.7	.7
Thursday	.7	.8
Friday	1.0	.8
Saturday	2.3	2.5

A month of variety store sales, which included five Fridays and Saturdays (as July, 1948), would have a weight of 24 working days plus 1.0 plus 2.3, or 27.3, whereas a month with five Mondays and Tuesdays (August, 1948) would have 24 plus 0.6 plus 0.7, or 25.3. The difference of two days amounts to about 8 per cent.

It is the object of calendar reform to do away with the necessity of calculations such as this, by producing a calendar in which corresponding months in all years would have the same days exactly. The World Calendar solves this problem, as with it every month-date falls on the same day of the week year after year and is always known in advance.

Advantage of Regular Holidays

In addition, months will have their regular 26 weekdays plus Sundays, another great advantage. It is true that holidays still interfere with this regular pattern. When once, however, the calendar is established on a set and unchangeable plan, as are the dials on clocks and watches, holidays can be established likewise on their regular days and dates. But this can be done only after the calendar has been made perpetual; otherwise changeable weekdays will give way to changeable month-dates and nothing is gained. This was suggested recently in an article in one of the leading national magazines, that all holidays fall on Monday, irrespective of date. Monday holidays logically come after the establishment of the perpetual calendar, and not before, and then only if the people desire them.

Stability, Balance, Equality

It is the quality of stability combined with balance and the equalization of quarter-years which makes The World Calendar universally acceptable, not only for all purposes of comparison and statistical control or review, but also as an excellent accounting system that requires no auxiliary calendar. In addition, days and dates are easily remembered because of the regular and rhythmic pattern.

Let governments and civilians through the United Nations make plans now to remove the present outmoded, costly and wasteful calendar by replacing it with The World Calendar that permits a constructive use of the saved material, money, time and effort. Its all-round use in every-day life will prove of lasting benefit and satisfaction to the world and be an enduring blessing to man.

The Honorable Dean Acheson
The Secretary of State
Washington 25, D. C.

August 16, 1950

My dear Mr. Secretary:

At a regular meeting of our Executive Committee held yesterday, the members voted unanimous approval of the proposed World Calendar because they are convinced that a stabilized time system not only would eliminate inconvenience and reduce expense but would also alleviate problems which have hampered international commerce.

Although the Korean war and other international situations naturally transcend such a matter as the adoption of The World Calendar, we should like to go on record as urging that you give favorable consideration to instructing the United States delegates to the Fifth Regular Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which is scheduled to convene September 19, to give active and vigorous support to The World Calendar resolution if it comes before the Assembly at that time.

Yours very truly,

*D. Hayes Murphy, President
The Wiremold Company
Hartford, Connecticut*

THE FIRST UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

by Elisabeth Achelis
President, The World Calendar Association

NOTABLE among recent international events was the First United States International Trade Fair, held in Chicago 7-20 August 1950, for the purpose of encouraging and increasing international cooperation in the trading and business activities of the world.

The Fair proved an outstanding success for the buyers and exhibitors, of which the latter were 1,668. The public, too, showed keen interest by their attendance, which was permitted on Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. The crowd proved so great on Tuesdays and Thursdays that on the last Thursday the hours for admission of the public were extended to run from 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. From the standpoint of attendance alone, which was some 450,000, the sponsors of the Fair may be well pleased.

Geographically and from the viewpoint of the world of trade and the vast transportation requirements, the city of Chicago was an admirable choice. Located in the northern central area of the United States, it has water transportation via the Pacific, the Great Lakes and the Atlantic, not to mention the vast railroad

systems and air lines linking the East and West with the North and South, which make Chicago one of the great transportation centers of the world. This Trade Fair was thus held in a most strategic area of our country.

Leaders Had Great Vision

To the business men and civic leaders of Chicago, to its President, Mr. I. S. Anoff, and General Manager, Colonel John N. Gage, and their assistants much credit must be given for their acumen, vision and courage which has made this First United States International Trade Fair an outstanding achievement. Their daring was fully justified. In addition to these men, Dr. Jacques Kunstenaar, Director of Foreign Affairs of the International Trade Fair and Editor of *The Trade Fair Daily*, deserves much praise for his activities, and his publication was of inestimable value to exhibitors and buyers.

Forty-seven Nations Participated

According to the record of the I.T.F., forty-seven nations participated: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic,

Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Greenland, Guatemala.

Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, South Korea (her goods had left the country just before the outbreak of hostilities), Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, The Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, the Saar, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Trieste, Tunis, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela, and Yugoslavia.

Among the many and varied exhibits were china, glass and silver ware; textiles, embroideries, jewels; leather, wood, fibre, toys; cutlery, hardware, sewing machines and bicycles; food, grains, liquors; aviation, transportation and scientific displays.

The Trade Fair was held in two buildings. In the Navy Pier the exhibits were concentrated mainly on the consumer-type goods for buyers and the general public, while in the Amphitheatre the displays consisted in great part of mechanical goods, industrial equipment and supplies.

The World Calendar Has Exhibit

The long Navy Pier had four rows of booths in each of the north and south wings, which were estimated to cover from four to five miles. Among this vast array of articles for the wholesale trade of buying and selling (retail buying and selling were not permitted), The World Calendar Association was fortunate indeed to exhibit The World Calendar by means of a large plan and seven smaller posters. Its booth, C-22, was in the third row, near the entrance of the north side of the Navy Pier, an admirable location.

Literature on The World Calendar was in constant demand so that many thou-

sand pieces were distributed until the supply was exhausted and it was necessary to put up a sign informing visitors to write The World Calendar Association for information. The Association was much impressed by this demonstration of interest.

To the left of the booth was that of the Voice of America, although the men in charge were more like roving groups than stationary exhibitors, collecting material everywhere to beam across the world. To the right was the exhibit of Braniff International Airways, whose Vice President, John B. Walker, is well known to many of The World Calendar Affiliates for his able work a year ago in the Latin Americas, informing these countries on The World Calendar, which greatly contributed to their increasing knowledge of the subject.

Directly opposite in the fourth row was the Woman's Committee of the I.T.F., under the able chairmanship of Mrs. John Gage, while to their right was the Watford Chemical Company of England which showed an interesting though somewhat intricate model of a glycerol molecule that constantly drew a large crowd.

Standard Time Exhibit Significant

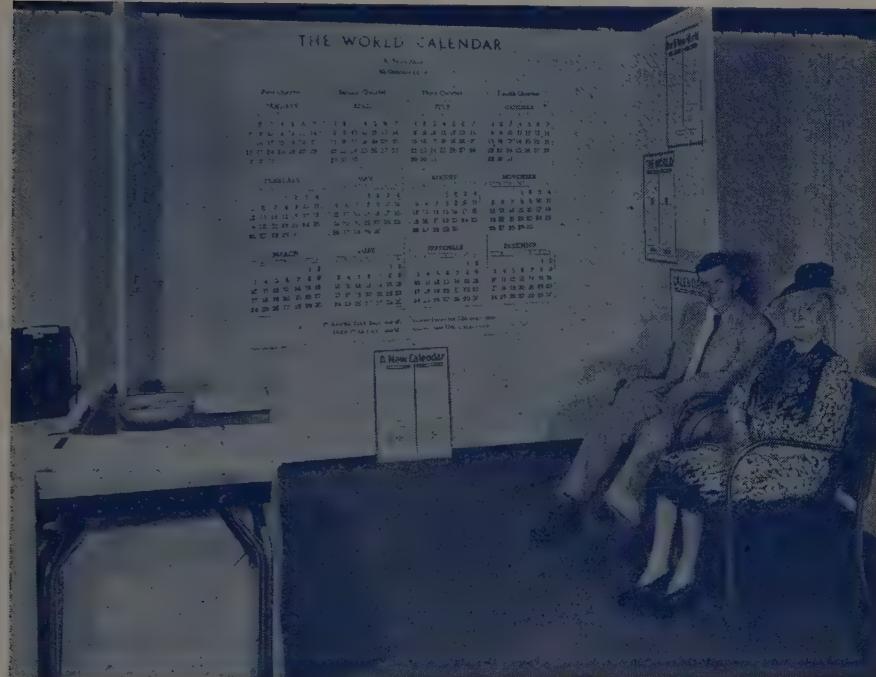
To The World Calendar Association it was highly significant that the first exhibit to greet the visitors entering the fair by the north side of the Navy Pier, in the same row, C-1, was that of RCA Communications with five different clocks. In the center was the clock of Chicago, slightly to the right and somewhat lower was the clock of London, and again further on to the right and still lower in position was that of Capetown, South Africa. To the left of the central Chicago

clock was that of Tokyo, and following a parallel position to that on the right was the clock of Sydney, Australia, so that these five clocks formed a semi-circle.

On the morning of 8 August when I visited and studied this exhibit, Chicago

Time, what may not be the overall beneficial result of The World Calendar when in use?

For transportation, communication and all international intercourse, it goes without saying, one common universal calen-



time was 9:15 a.m., London time 3:15 p.m., and Capetown time 5:15 p.m., all the same day. However, to the left of Chicago's clock, Tokyo's time was 12:15 a.m. of the next day, 9 August, and that of Sydney 1:15 a.m. of the same day—actually our tomorrow.

Here was a visible display of the amazing system of Standard Time that is making radio communication throughout the world so remarkably efficient. This being the far-reaching achievement of Standard

dar will have a unifying and stabilizing effect.

Other Exhibitors

Other exhibits on the north side near that of The World Calendar were the Pan American Airways, in Row A-1, and close to it the model show of the Port of London, while next to the RCA exhibit in the third row, C, was the display of the Port of Bremen with its working model in true scale of machinery unloading a cargo

ship, which attracted the constant attention of the public.

The spirit of the exhibitors was well evidenced, I think, by one of the smallest nations, the Dominican Republic. Among its display of raw and finished fibres; embroideries, tortoise shell, amber and horn; chocolate and cocoa, cigars and wood articles; one read in the center panel of its booth these significant words:

"The Dominican Republic, in keeping with her traditional policy of international trade cooperation among free nations, is happy to be a part in this important Fair and extends her greetings to all."

It was the spirit of cooperation among free nations that was notably present everywhere.

In the words of General Dawes, who addressed the luncheon on the opening day: "The fair is just a matter of international common sense."

The International Harvester Company, Time Magazine, Pepsi Cola Company, and the Republic of Argentina (photographic exhibit) provided a large area for welcome though momentary relaxation, furnished with comfortable easy chairs and supplied with a few television sets. The Pepsi Cola Company dispensed its drink, and the Bireleys Division of General Foods Company was the generous host to exhibitors and buyers offering their delicious pure fruit juices—orange, pineapple, lime and grape. We are happy to express our sincere thanks for these welcome and refreshing beverages. Good luncheons and dinners for exhibitors, buyers and the public could be had in restaurants in both the north and south sides.

Close to the south side entrance was a

vast display of glass, china and silver ware which in their beauty and sparkle, caused by the electric light reflection, created a crystal fairy spot. Sweden, Denmark, Belgium and Germany were the exhibitors. Notable also was the large showing of leather goods—hides, shoes, shopping bags and luggage—displayed by England, and the exquisite materials of the goods of France, not to mention the multitudinous displays of other lands.

The Hall of Nations, designed by an Amsterdam architect, gave equal space to each of the countries participating in the exhibit. It was located at the extreme end of the Navy Pier on a lower level. On an outside platform jutting into Lake Michigan was a carillon, that gave afternoon concerts. It, also, was made in Holland, and its ultimate destination was Quebec, Canada.

Vast Potentialities in Trade Fair

I was increasingly impressed with the significance of the First United States International Trade Fair and its vast potentialities for the business marts of the world. Here was an influential force for promoting increased economic prosperity, cooperation and good will for improving and increasing world trade. Here was demonstrated free interchange of international goods and products, indispensable agents for economic recovery and stability.

This Trade Fair was outstanding in showing America's business world and the public what other countries have to sell and in turn showing the buyers and exhibitors of other countries what America has to offer. Thus good results are bound to accrue from such free and open intercourse. I have heard of other suc-



The Navy Pier

cessful international trade fairs, such as those of Toronto, Canada; Brussels, Belgium; Leipzig, Germany; and the British Industry Fair in London and Birmingham; which greatly encouraged and aided the international activities of business. It is thus natural and wholesome that an international trade fair has been introduced in the United States.

Governor Comments

Said Adlai E. Stevenson, Governor of Illinois:

"From the earliest times, traders with other countries have been a leading factor in fostering closer understanding between nations.

"The culture of practically every country shows the beneficial results

of this interchange of goods and ideas. The International Trade Fair will bring to this country leading business men of many countries. We will get to know them better, and they will come to know us. . . .

"We in the United States pride ourselves on our productivity. Our vast resources, our assembly lines techniques, our genius for organization, are the envy of the world. Yet we still can learn much from many of the artisans of other countries whose handiwork is the result of specialized individual skills. The differences in methods can bring to us a greater understanding of the abilities, the temperaments and the modes of living of the peoples in countries around the globe.

"The International Trade Fair is the first such enterprise to be held in this country. We of Illinois are proud to be host."

This Trade Fair made me realize more clearly than ever before how closely integrated is the economic world. What affects one, affects all. Are not we, the people, closely related and are not the nations integral parts of the world? No one can live alone and progress; there must be a wholesome giving and taking, sharing and understanding, and this inevitable fact was brought home forcefully to me, an exhibitor at the I. T. F.

An Inspired Idea

Favorable reaction to the Fair resulted in an inspired idea, which I was privileged and happy to express to Colonel John N. Gage on the morning of my departure, Wednesday afternoon, 16 August. The Colonel responded: "You have the right understanding, I should like to tell your idea to the gentlemen with whom I am going to lunch today."

This idea was to see Chicago established as a great international business mart in the United States and thus to have this First United States International Trade Fair become an annual or biennial event. Her geographical and physical conditions make her peculiarly fitting.

Then another international event could be held in St. Louis, Missouri, a great center in the United States for international culture and social pursuits such as music—orchestra, song and dance; literature—prose, poetry and drama; the arts—painting, sculpture, drawing, illustration, photography. St. Louis in her central location just east of the Mississippi River is singularly well adapted for such an annual or biennial convention. West of the Mississippi, the open door to the vast prairie land, Kansas City could become an established international cen-

ter in the United States for all agricultural matters; while to the farthest west on the Pacific Coast, San Francisco, the city of the Golden Gate, could open her doors to the Eastern world, linking it to the Western world in a spirit of greater understanding, friendship and cooperation. An international seat of learning could be established for the exchange of ideas, studies and customs.

And then there is New York, located on the Atlantic Coast, the home of the United Nations, as well as the acknowledged center of the financial world. And Boston could be an international center for the advancement of the sciences.

Finally there is the state of Florida to the south, which could be identified as an international area for relaxation, rest and play in the United States. For every nation, and the world at large, needs places for recuperation, away from the busy marts and activities of the world. Where can this be had better than in the state of Florida, the land of sunshine, swimming, bathing, sailing and fishing?

By thus developing certain areas or cities in the United States for special fields of international intercourse and activities, much rivalry, contention and envy would be removed and ideal cooperation be established. Each city or area would become known for its particular contribution and so acknowledged. What a harmonious world-picture this presents—a federation of good fellowship, the Brotherhood of Man.

With these international centers established in the United States toward obtaining free international intercourse and exchange of ideas, does it not follow that The World Calendar would be an indispensable adjunct? The perpetual record-

ing year after year of fixed days, dates and holidays would materially assist in the planning for opening and closing dates of the various international events.

Standard Time established clock-time some sixty years ago. Shall we have a Standard Calendar in 1956—The World Calendar?

“FROM CAVE PAINTING TO COMIC STRIP”

BY LANCELOT HOGBEN

A brief comment by Elisabeth Achelis

“**I**T was all of 200,000 years before man painted his first pictures.” we are informed by Dr. Hogben in his recent book, *From Cave Painting to Comic Strip* (Chanticleer Press), and in the Foreword we are advised that the approach is based on the defense of the Middle Way, neither the highbrow nor the lowbrow, which carries an immediate appeal.

Dr. Hogben presents a fascinating panorama of man from earliest times and how he has educated himself. How he devised calendars, alphabets, numbers, mechanical and anatomical drawings, paintings and photographs. It is a captivating story fortified by many interesting illustrations.

The World Calendar Association is particularly impressed with the importance of the role the calendar played in man’s life from the earliest days of civilization. Throughout the history of civilization, it is revealing how closely the calendar is tied up with the development of man. It thus follows closely the premise of the writer in his earlier book, *Science for the Citizen*, wherein he wrote: “The arts of writing, architecture, numbering and in particular geometry . . . were all by-products of man’s first organized achievement, the construction of the calendar.”

Dr. Hogben concludes his book by mentioning the great aid visualization is to man. He warns against “lop-sided specialisation,” and advises man to free himself from it in order to undertake “the serious tasks of education unhampered by sentimental preoccupations and with generosity to share with others a social heritage to which peoples of other continents and of other color have contributed so much.” This sharing and understanding he tells us are essential for our survival and may well be the dawn of a better era. In the words of Dr. Hogben: “If we do so, later generations may recall our own as the beginning of a golden age. If we fail to do so, there may be no men or women left to record our failure.”

Here is a clear demonstration of the need for greater and freer intercourse and interchange of ideas.

The time is rapidly approaching when nations, organizations, peoples and individuals must realize that they are all integral parts of each other. Only as they recognize that they belong to one human family, foster a closer understanding of international cooperation and encourage the production of visual aids by means of the arts, cultural pursuits and scientific instruction, can civilization and peoples in their common relationship acquire a greater measure of understanding and cooperation, leading to a more peaceful and productive era.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The following item is reprinted from The Orillia (Ontario) Packet and Times, 29 June 1950. This resolution is a highly important sequel to the endorsement given The World Calendar by the Council of the Board of Trade of Orillia, when on 23 March 1948, following an address on the subject by Arthur J. Hills, Chairman of The World Calendar Association's Canadian Affiliate, it went on record as being "unanimously in favor of the proposed World Calendar."

AT a recent meeting of the Council of the Orillia Board of Trade the following resolution concerning the adoption of The World Calendar was discussed and passed for forwarding to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce for consideration at its annual meeting:

That, whereas the present Gregorian calendar occasions a great deal of confusion by reason of its unequal quarters, fluctuating days for specific monthly dates, and movable holidays:

And, whereas a proposed World Calendar establishing fixed days for each month of the year and equal quarters of 91 days has received wide recognition as a desirable reform, and considerable international support among members of the United Nations:

And, whereas The World Calendar involves a minimum of departure from the present system and would at the same time greatly simplify the keeping and comparison of business statistics, since each month would have 26 working days, and the same monthly conditions from year to year:

The Council of the Orillia Board of Trade respectfully suggests that the Canadian Chamber of Commerce should endorse the principle involved in the proposed World Calendar, and should urge the Dominion Government of Canada to instruct its representative at the United Nations to give vigorous support to its adoption by that organization at an early date, with a view to bringing it into operation in 1956.

And that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce throughout Canada, with a request that they should pass similar motion and instruct their delegates to the annual meeting of the Canadian Chamber to lend it their support.

IN SUPPORT OF THE WORLD CALENDAR

By Dr. Juan Rivera Reyes

Delegate to Panama to the World Federation of United Nations Associations

The following address in support of the Resolution referring to the consideration and adoption of The World Calendar, proposed by the Panama Society for the United Nations, was delivered by Dr. Rivera Reyes, who is also Chairman of the Panama Affiliate of The World Calendar Association, at the Fifth Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, Geneva, Switzerland, 6-12 September, 1950.

MR. Chairman, Honorable Delegates:

When the Republic of Panama introduced last year before the United Nations the new item, on the revision of the Calendar, its delegate submitted the following considerations: (See *Journal of Calendar Reform* Third Quarter, 1949, page 205.)

It has been repeatedly stressed, and on many different occasions, that public opinion was greatly in favor of the adoption of The World Calendar; in reality, The World Calendar was accepted and recommended by many organizations directing public opinion and culture.

Our Federation is an assembly of peoples and not of Governments, therefore we have to act according to the wishes of the people.

It was also proposed that, in accordance

with article 62, par. 4, of the Charter, a special United Nations Committee should be created by the Economic and Social Council in order to consider the question of The World Calendar and submit, for final adoption, to the sixth General Assembly of 1951, the results of the study undertaken.

But the indifference of the majority of leading personalities has been the greatest obstacle to an appropriate consideration of The World Calendar Plan. To the indifference of some is added the ignorance of many who criticize without having studied the matter; there are many people who oppose indignantly all progressive action or measure which would tend towards constituting a broad basis for greater perfection in the world. They are victims of misoneism, which is a sentiment of hatred against anything new.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the Columbia University (U.S.A.), gave the following advice to the students graduating in 1950: "Always try and be for something rather than against something." Such optimism is a powerful arm in favor of progress.

E Pluribus Unum, a North American motto, is the rule which has been followed in drawing up The World Calendar which is perpetual and uniform, its constituent parts having been submitted to a rational order.

We have the hope that the work which we are carrying out here will have favorable results in 1951, and that as from 1952, the Members of the United Nations will ratify this project so that on 1 January 1956, when the new and the old calendars coincide, the new system of measuring time will be put into force. It will constitute an event of world wide importance and will absorb the entire attention of humanity, whereas today humanity only thinks of calculating the potentiality of every nation, inquiring into the possibilities of triumph in case of war, frightened by the effect of the atomic and hydrogen bomb and conceiving other such horrible thoughts which today are the food of the world. Instead of entertaining such thoughts humanity could look for anything likely to simplify life, make life easier, and therefore happier, unifying their lives, for unity leads to understanding and peace.

Let us come back on history so as to show clearly the efforts that have been made to correct the present system of the calendar, which has so many defects.

We all know that Pope Gregory XIII introduced a reform by means of a Papal bull in 1582, so that the world had to

skip ten days in order to coincide with the real date in accordance with the movement of the sun.

England and the American colonies adopted the reform only 170 years later, in 1752, when they were compelled to skip 11 days, from 2 September to 14 September (which are thus omitted in history) when the two methods of measuring time were known, the old and the new style.

In 1923, the Advisory and Technical Communications and Transit Committee of the League of Nations set up a Special Committee to study the calendar reform on the basis of the draft elaborated by the International Astronomical Union in 1922. Disposing of the conclusions of this Special Committee, a Preparatory Committee, composed of 14 countries, met at Geneva in 1931, before the Fourth General Assembly. In 1937, the Council of the League of Nations took into consideration a communication of the International Labour Conference of the American countries, which had been held in Santiago de Chile in 1936. The Chilean delegation had submitted an international draft convention for the adoption of The World Calendar. The representatives of 14 countries approved the plan for calendar reform proposed by Chile. Seventeen countries were in favor of the adoption of this reform: Afghanistan, Brazil, Chile, China, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Mexico, Norway, Panama, Peru, Spain, Turkey, Uruguay, Czechoslovakia, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

In 1947, the Delegation of Peru at the United Nations submitted to the Economic and Social Council a draft resolution in favor of the adoption of The World Calendar. This proposal was supported by

Norway and China. The Secretary General was asked to make a report on the proposal which had been found absolutely satisfactory, but later on this item was removed from the agenda, as there were other items of immediate and urgent interest to be considered.

When again the Republic of Panama proposed the consideration of this matter to the General Assembly of 1949, the item

One of the reasons for which this plan has always been favorably looked upon, is that the change brings about a minimum of alterations and a maximum of benefits. Among the deficiencies of the present calendar, the most striking one is that there are 28 different kinds of months, although it might seem that there are no more than 4, as they change any day of the week. The three months pe-



Dr. Juan Rivera Reyes

was included on the provisional agenda but again withdrawn with the same excuse, that there was other important business on the agenda, so that the consideration of this important item was left to a coming Assembly, the merit and the importance of the proposal being always recognized.

riods are of different duration (90, 91 and 92 days), and so also the half-year periods differ from 181 to 184 days. Some holidays are always changing, moving from one day of the week to the other. Imagine the work this implies when making calculations and estimates in the commercial and statistical field.

Compare these deficiencies with The World Calendar plan which is invariable, regular, balanced and permanent.

So, for instance, Easter Sunday, which is a religious celebration, suffers no change at all, according to the new calendar and thus also the Jewish rest day never changes (the Jews though never accepted the Christian Calendar).

It is most interesting to observe the activities of different organizations and Nations asking for the calendar reform, after the adoption of the Gregorian Calendar, adoption which some countries inexplicably delayed. In order to illustrate the interest of this problem, I will refer to the principal facts of this universal movement. (*Op. cit.* Second Quarter, 1950, page 76.)

Allow me to read the resolution adopted on 5 April of this year (*Op. cit.* page 68) concerning the approval of The World Calendar and recommendation for adoption by the whole world made by the eminent Royal Institute of Canada.

I also referred to the bill presented to Congress and to the Senate of the United States of America, which is similar to the one presented in the House. (*Op. cit.* Second Quarter, 1949, page 143.)

I cannot resist the temptation of reading to you some ideas contained in the recent publication entitled "Compass, Clock and The Calendar." (Annex A.)

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen: I have given you a brief outline of the importance of the problem of the calendar reform and of the need which the world feels to change its system for measuring time. It is not necessary for me to go into further details, but I have the pleasure of giving to the delegates of this Assembly of the Federation of United Nations Associations

several copies of the *Journal of Calendar Reform* in which you will find an infinite number of documents and opinions of the greatest value.

I am certain that everything adopted by this Assembly at its meeting of 6 September, also the unanimous approval of all recommendations made on the adoption of the Agenda, presented by the Executive Committee, including point 6 which disposes of item 33 (Revision of the United Nations Charter, in order to eliminate all anti democratic principles which led to an abusive use of the veto, due to which one country can destroy the hopes of the 58 remaining ones) and item 34 (which recommends two points: 1. Ask delegates of this Assembly to carry out among the people and for Governments a campaign of information on the necessity and convenience of adopting the Calendar Reform, according to the plan of The World Calendar Association, Inc., of New York, and 2. Ask the United Nations Economic and Social Council that it should take the initiative and all appropriate action so that this item can be considered on account of its economic and social character, in conformity with par. 1 of Article 62 of the Charter) which are both items proposed by the Panama Society for the United Nations, and which are to be submitted to the Executive Committee itself, was done, without any doubt, in order to accelerate procedure, and avoid all loss of time with long and sterile discussions. Our final aim is to make both recommendations which are of positive interest and of benefit to humanity. (Annex B.)

I am certain, and I should like to repeat it, that the work of this Assembly will fulfill the hopes which were awakened

and that the matter dealt with in this paper will be solved satisfactorily. We will thus prove that we have been inspired by the noble sentiments always expressed in this majestic palace, and that we have done our possible for the welfare of this world which today is going through a hard ordeal, which even makes people doubt if there really still exists goodness and happiness.

Honorable Delegates:

On this matter of the new calendar, as well as on other matters, there are two criteria that can be applied. On the one hand, there are those who prefer the cart to the automobile, the train, the steam-boat and the plane; those who prefer the

old system of communications to the telegraph, the wireless, the telephone, the radio and television; those who prefer manual methods to manufacture and modern machinery; on the other hand, there are those who receive enthusiastically anything which signifies progress, those who foster anything which means perfecting the existing methods and who support and defend all advances in civilization.

I hope that the Members of this distinguished Assembly all belong to the second category, for it is the desire of all to create a better world and work for the well-being of mankind.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Geneva, 11 September, 1950.



ANNEX A

COMPASS, CLOCK AND THE CALENDAR

To ignore the revision of the calendar just because it is a prosaic, mathematical and familiar instrument, to adhere to the false premise that it must wait for a more propitious time, and to ignore its defects, are not justifiable reasons for delaying the change. The confusion and unreliability of the calendar are constantly carried over into our civil life. Realizing this, should we not revise the calendar as quickly as possible? Does it not become a privilege, nay a duty, for this generation, especially during these tense and disturbed war years, to install a calendar that is really "an orderly arrangement" and the best "adapted to the purposes of civil life," whereby it may better serve us?

In this world struggle to let go of the

yesterdays and to accept the tomorrows, inevitable changes are taking place in our todays in every thing, in every way, in every nation and in every individual.

We are experiencing and gaining a new understanding of the dignity of man, new forms of government (national and international), and new international relationships. New discoveries in the sciences, new interpretations of religion, new concepts of economics, a new outlook on education, new manifestations in art and culture, new means of transportation and communication, and a new system of calendar, are all in the making.

Time, as we know it, came with the creation of earth. The very words: "In the beginning," God gave to man his human time-sense. With the steady progression of time and man's increasing

knowledge and development, his sense of time as expressed in the civil calendar also changed. Of these changes there have been many in the past and today it is logical and evident where everything is being made new that a new calendar also is inevitable. For a new and better

world cannot be built on a calendar with its faulty pattern of yesterday.

Shall we not, then, with open and free minds adopt a better civil calendar which with many other new things is knocking at the door of our world, seeking acceptance?



ANNEX B

The Fifth Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations,
in exercise of its powers and CONSIDERING:

1—That the ideal of the whole world is to have a logical and perpetual calendar to replace the present Gregorian calendar, because it is widely recognized that it is unsatisfactory for economic, social, educational, scientific and other activities of man and that modern progress demands the change;

2—That such a revision has been the subject of study and research on the part of experts, institutions and international organizations for many years;

3—That adoption of The World Calendar is recommended for use throughout the world and is the best of all known suggested replacement calendars according with the conclusion reached by the most important organizations and has been approved in principle by many countries;

4—That the Delegation of Peru in 1947 put a resolution before the United Nations Economic and Social Council favoring study of The World Calendar with a view to its adoption, seconded by other countries;

5—That the Republic of Panama proposed The World Calendar Association's plan for calendar reform as a subject for the 1949 General Assembly, and the item was on the provisional agenda;

6—That in all instances no opposition has been voiced on the merits of the proposal for the calendar reform;

7—That The World Calendar is scientific, stable and perpetual, being but one unvarying calendar every year, and offers harmony and order to all strata of society—government, finance, industry, labor, trade, administration of justice, home life, religion, transportation, education, etc.;

8—That the calendar drafted by The World Calendar Association, Inc., is also under discussion in the United States House of Representatives and the Senate as a result of proposals submitted in 1946, 1947 and 1949,

RESOLVES

First.—The World Federation of United Nations Associations urges all its members to develop an illustrative campaign among their peoples to demonstrate the convenience and the necessity of the calendar reform proposed by The World Calendar Association, Inc.; and to request from their government the adoption of the calendar sponsored by The World Calendar Association, Inc., by international agreement.

Second.—To ask the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to take the initiative and the appropriate action with respect to the consideration of this matter of the calendar reform,—which is of international economic and social character—at the Twelfth Session of the Economic and Social Council, according with paragraph 1 of the article 62 of the Charter of the United Nations; and to make the appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly, to the Members of the United Nations and to the specialized agency concerned for the universal adoption of The World Calendar proposed by The World Calendar Association, Inc., on Sunday the First of January, 1956.

Geneva, 6 September, 1950.

Juan Rivera Reyes
Delegate of the Sociedad Panamena de Amigos de
las Naciones Unidas



The World Calendar item was placed on the agenda as No. 34.

The Executive Committee submitted to the Plenary Assembly the following recommendation: That item 34 be referred to the Executive Committee for study. The Assembly approved it unanimously.

I (Delegate of the Panama Society) explained to the Executive Committee the spirit of my draft Resolution, which did not require study but consideration. They explained before the meeting of the Committee that this was the best procedure and that everything would come out all right.

On the day of the Executive Committee meeting, 12 September, the item was No. 4-a on the Special Agenda.

The decision reached was to consult the Associations of the United Nations and to communicate their recommendation to the United Nations Economic and Social Council at its session in Geneva, June-July, 1951.

LES TRAVAILLEURS ET LE CALENDRIER MONDIAL

*par Elisabeth Achelis
Présidente de l'Association du Calendrier Mondial*

L'article ci-dessous, un peu abrégé, est reproduit de la Revue syndicale suisse, 9 février 1949, organe mensuel de l'Union syndicale suisse, Berne. (Voir traduction anglaise à la page opposée.)

Cet article a été écrit à la requête du rédacteur, M. Jean Möri, qui a déclaré: "Ce problème m'intéresse en effet à tel point que je vous serais obligé d'écrire pour la Revue syndicale suisse une étude à ce propos." M. Möri, qui était aussi un délégué à la Conférence internationale du travail en juin 1949, a donné à l'Association du Calendrier Mondial l'assurance que, si une résolution est présentée à cette conférence, "elle sera soutenue par les membres travailleurs de la délégation suisse."

LA nécessité d'améliorer le calendrier actuel, sujet à variations, en le rendant stable, fut reconnue à la 11^e Conférence internationale du travail, réunie en juin 1928. Cette réforme rallia les suffrages de "l'intérêt que présentait cette question pour les ouvriers dans ses rapports avec les problèmes que pose une amélioration des conditions de travail et la statistique industrielle, la stabilisation de l'emploi et la régularisation des jours fériés."

Enoncé ces avantages d'une façon plus détaillée, disons que le calendrier perpétuel éliminerait les variations des statistiques mensuelles—d'un intérêt direct pour les ouvriers—ainsi que des statistiques de la production et du rendement. Il fournirait une base plus sûre au calcul des probabilités, contribuerait à la préparation de meilleurs programmes de travail.

Il apporterait une aide précieuse à l'exploitation scientifique en général et, les mêmes dates revenant tous les mois les mêmes jours de semaine, il éviterait les pertes occasionnées par les jours fériés que tombent un dimanche.

Dans un article de la *Revue internationale du Travail*, parue en août 1927, il est fait mention de divers projets d'une réforme du calendrier portés à l'examen de la Ligue des nations, dont deux retiennent l'attention: le calendrier de treize mois et celui de douze mois à trimestres égaux. Mais l'on comprit que le projet d'un calendrier de treize mois entraînerait un plus grand écart du système en cours que ne le ferait celui de douze mois revisé et, en vertu de ses profondes modifications, soulèverait une forte opposition. Par contre, le calendrier de douze mois à trimestres égaux ayant l'avantage d'être

LABOR AND THE WORLD CALENDAR

by Elisabeth Achelis
President, *The World Calendar Association*

The following article, slightly abridged, is reprinted from La Revue syndicale suisse, February 1949, monthly organ of the Swiss Federation of Trade Unions, Berne, Switzerland. (For French text, see opposite page.)

This article was written at the request of the Editor, M. Jean Möri, who stated: "This problem interests me, in fact to such a degree that I would be very much obliged to you if you would write a survey of this matter for the Revue syndicale suisse." M. Möri, who was also a delegate to the International Labor Conference in June 1949, assured *The World Calendar Association* that should a resolution be introduced at that Conference "it will have the backing of the labor members of the Swiss Delegation."

THE need to improve the present shifting calendar, stabilizing it, was recognized at the Eleventh International Labor Conference, held in June 1928, when it approved the reform of the calendar on "the interest that this matter has for the workers, because of its relation to the problems of the improvement of working conditions and industrial statistics, stabilization of employment, and regularization of holidays."

Stating these benefits in greater detail, the perpetual calendar would remove the variations in monthly statistics which are of immediate interest to the workers, and in statistics of production and output; it would furnish a more reliable basis for making forecasts and so help in arranging better programs of work; it would be a valuable aid to scientific management in general; and since dates would always fall on the same day of the week each month, it would eliminate the loss entailed by holidays falling on Sunday.

In an article of the *International Labor Review*, August 1927, mention was made of different schemes of calendar reform examined by the League of Nations, from which two plans emerged: the 13-month calendar and the 12-month equal-quarter calendar. However, it was felt that the 13-month plan would involve a greater departure from the existing system than would the 12-month revision and because of its many radical changes would arouse opposition, whereas the 12-month calendar of equal quarters had the advantage of requiring less change from the existing system so that its adoption would cause less interruption in the continuity of statistical data.

About a decade from the time Labor interested itself in calendar revision, the International Labor Conference of American States, meeting in Chile, January 1936, upheld the earlier resolution and recommended the adoption of the perpetual calendar of 12 months and equal

plus conforme au calendrier actuel, l'on pensa qu'il assurerait plus de continuité dans les données de la statistique.

Environ dix ans après cette marque d'intérêt émanant du travail, la Conférence internationale du travail des Etats américains, tenue au Chili en janvier 1936, se montra favorable à la résolution antérieure et conseilla l'adoption d'un calendrier fixe de douze mois à trimestres égaux, connu sous la dénomination de "Le Calendrier Mondial." Six mois plus tard, cette motion était suivie d'une résolution approuvée par l'Organisation internationale du travail lors de sa 20^e session, à Genève. Celle-ci conseillait une réforme du calendrier et, invoquant la résolution chiliennes, sollicitait l'attention du conseil de la Ligue des nations pour que le comité des communications et transit en continue l'étude.

Douze ans après, en 1948, l'on tenta de porter la question du Calendrier Mondial devant l'Organisation internationale du travail à Montréal, ensuite à San-Francisco, lors de sa 31^e session, en juin. Mais un programme très chargé à l'ordre du jour incita les partisans du Calendrier Mondial à ajourner leur action, se réservant d'agir lors de la 32^e session, qui doit se tenir à Genève au mois de juin de cette année [1949].*

Donc, l'heure est grave et ne permet plus de tergiverser.

Voici un bref résumé des principaux avantages résultant du Calendrier Mondial:

1. Une année invariable dont toutes les dates seraient fixées à des jours réguliers.

*Note de l'Editeur: Voir le *Journal of Calendar Reform*, t. 19, page 189.

2. Chaque année commencerait le premier jour de la semaine, c'est-à-dire le dimanche 1^{er} janvier.
3. Des trimestres égaux, de trois mois, treize semaines et quatre-vingt-onze jours.
4. Chaque trimestre s'ordonnerait régulièrement, les trois mois de trente et un, trente et trente jours respectivement se succédant, totalisant treize semaines pleines.
5. Tous les trimestres commencerait un dimanche et finiraient un samedi.
6. Chaque mois comprendrait vingt-six jours de semaine, plus les dimanches.
7. Trois sortes de mois seulement, commençant respectivement un dimanche, un mercredi et un vendredi auraient pour effet d'éliminer la source de confusion existant dans le passé et d'éviter la monotonie.
8. Les diverses unités de calendrier—jour, semaine, mois, trimestre—coïncidant toutes le dernier jour de chaque trimestre, un samedi, concorderaient avec l'égalité.
9. Une coordination parfaite des unités du calendrier à l'intérieur même des trimestres et de l'année.
10. Des vacances fixes quant au jour et à la date.
11. La création de deux nouvelles dates pour faire équilibre—la *Journée Mondiale*, W Décembre (l'ancien 31 décembre*), revenant tous les ans, et la *Journée Bissextile*, W Juin (l'ancien 29 février**), reve-

*Jour férié mondial, W ou 31 décembre (365 jour).

**Jour férié mondial des années bissextiles, W ou 31 juin (jour extra).

quarters, known as The World Calendar. This action was followed six months later in June by a resolution approved by the International Labor Organization at its Twentieth Session, at Geneva. It recommended calendar reform, referred to the Chilean resolution, and requested the attention of the Council of the League of Nations to the subject for the continuation of the study by the Committee on Communications and Transit.

Twelve years later, in 1948, an attempt was made to bring The World Calendar before the International Labor Organization at Montreal and before its Thirty-first Session at San Francisco in June. A very crowded agenda, however, caused the advocates of The World Calendar to defer action at that meeting and to concentrate their efforts instead on the forthcoming Thirty-second Session, to be held at Geneva in June of this year [1949].*

The time is thus momentous, and permits no delay.

A brief summary of the principal advantages of The World Calendar plan are:

1. One unvarying year with all dates fixed on regular days.
2. Each year begins on the first day of the week, Sunday, 1 January.
3. Quarters are equalized, each of 3 months or 13 weeks or 91 days.
4. Each quarter-year is arranged in a regular sequence of 3 months of 31, 30, 30 days, making 13 complete weeks.
5. Each quarter-year begins on a Sunday, ends on a Saturday.
6. Each of the 12 months has 26 weekdays plus Sundays.

7. Three kinds of months only, beginning on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday, respectively, remove the onus of past confusion as well as avoid monotony.
8. Equality and agreement are given the various calendar units, day, week, month and quarter, as they all coincide on the last day of every quarter, a Saturday.
9. Perfect coordination is had among the various calendar-units within every quarter-year and year itself.
10. Holidays are fixed as to day and date.
11. The new stabilizing days—Worldsday, W December (old 31 December*) every year, and Leapyear Day, W June (old 29 February**) every four years—offer the best method by which the calendar retains the required length of days to conform with the seasons and at the same time becomes perpetual.
12. Two World Holidays—Worldsday and Leapyear Day—for worldwide observance by all nations and peoples, lead to greater unity, harmony, order and peace. The 365th and 366th days of the calendar are thus given a new meaning and significance.

In contrast, it is readily seen that the present, unreliable, unbalanced and irregular calendar, containing 14 different kinds of year, unequal quarters, 28 different kinds of month, and in which days and dates never agree from year to year, is far from adequate for our modern use. In addition, holidays meander through

*Editor's Note: See *Journal of Calendar Reform*, Vol. 19, page 189.

* Worldsday, W or 31 December (365th day).

** Leapyear Day, W or 31 June (extra day).

nant tous les quatre ans—apporterait la meilleure solution grâce à laquelle le calendrier conserverait le nombre de jours voulu pour se conformer aux saisons et devenir perpétuel.

12. Deux journées de vacances célébrées dans le monde entier—la Journée Mondiale et la Journée Bissextile—auraient pour résultat d'augmenter la concorde et l'harmonie des peuples et seraient génératrices d'ordre et de paix. Les trois cent soixante-cinquième et trois cent soixante-sixième jours du calendrier acquerraient ainsi un signification plus haute.

Par contraste, l'on voit assez que l'actuel calendrier incertain, mal équilibré, instable, comprenant quatorze sortes d'années différentes, des trimestres inégaux, vingt-huit sortes différentes de mois, au cours desquels les jours et les dates varient d'une année à l'autre, est loin de correspondre aux besoins de notre ère moderne. En outre, les jours fériés y errent à l'aventure, ayant ou bien un jour fixe de la semaine avec dates différentes, ou une date fixe avec jours variables.

Notre calendrier insuffisant, tout comme n'importe quel outil insuffisant, donne de médiocres résultats, alors qu'une mesure adéquate du temps donne de bons résultats, comme le bon outil. Et le travail exige une mesure de temps perfectionnée au moyen de laquelle les salaires et les dépenses puissent se chiffrer plus facilement avec plus grande précision, permettant les échéances de payment dans les mêmes intervalles, aux mêmes jours et à la même date au cours d'une année de cinquante-deux semaines égales. La nouvelle *Journée Mondiale*, W Décembre, qui chaque

années répond à la journée supplémentaire en dehors des cinquante-deux semaines de l'année, et la *Journée Bissextile*, W Juin, répondant à la journée de surcroît lors des années bissextiles, seraient des vacances observées dans le monde entier par toutes les nations et tous les peuples.

Un calendrier transformé, mieux ordonné et équilibré tendant à établir des conditions plus équitables serait d'une aide précieuse, tant du point de vue du capital que du travail, car il permettrait de réaliser un maximum de profit, avec un rendement maximum, comme d'atteindre aux meilleurs résultats.

En ces temps de trouble et de chaos, alors que nous devons faire face à tant d'incertitudes et à l'augmentation croissante du coût de la vie qui nous concerne tous, il importe d'économiser notre temps, nos efforts, d'éliminer aussi tout sujet de tension cérébrale superflue, d'épargner le matériel et de réduire les frais chaque fois que cela nous est possible.

Le travail et l'industrie, aujourd'hui, ne peuvent plus se permettre de perdre du temps et de l'argent avec ces systèmes de calculs et de comptabilité compliqués et la confusion qui résulte obligatoirement d'un calendrier variant sans cesse, démodé aujourd'hui.

Le Calendrier Mondial, régulier, constant, qui simplifie et répartit d'une façon égale les fractions de l'année en journées de travail et dimanches et établit des journées et des dates qui concordent entre elles, répond à un besoin urgent. Il fournirait une base stable pour le travail et le repos au patron comme au travailleur. Un calendrier ainsi ordonné fonctionnant quotidiennement est d'importance vitale pour la comptabilité, pour déterminer les budgets et salaires et combien d'autres

the year; either they have their regular fixed day of the week with changeable dates, or fixed date with changeable weekdays.

Our inadequate calendar just like any inadequate tool produces poor results, whereas a good time-system like good tools produces good results. Labor demands a perfect time-system whereby wages and expenses can be figured more easily and accurately, one in which payments would always come at the same interval, regularly on the same weekday and date of every year that contains an even 52 weeks. The new *Worldsday*, W December, which takes care of the extra day that overruns the 52 weeks every year, and the *Leapyear Day*, W June, that takes care of the extra day in leap years, are World Holidays, to be universally observed by all nations and peoples.

To obtain the greatest benefit, attain the highest efficiency, and accomplish the best work for both labor and capital, a reshaping of the calendar to one that is ordered and balanced would be of inestimable aid, for it would establish fairer conditions.

In these unsettled and chaotic days, when uncertainties confront us everywhere, and in which the increased cost of living concerns us, we must conserve our valuable time and efforts, remove unnecessary and uncalled-for mental strain, and save material and reduce cost whenever and wherever possible.

No longer can labor and industry afford the loss of time and money, the intricate calculations and manipulation of accounting methods, and the confusion inherent in the unceasingly changeable days and dates of the present outmoded calendar.

The steady and reliable World Calendar, which simplifies and equalizes the divisions of the year into regular working days and Sundays and establishes agreeing days and dates, giving an accurate basis upon which to work and rest for both employer and employee, is an urgent necessity. To have such an ordered calendar in daily operation is vital for cost accounting, budgets and salaries, and the many other activities which our modern age is forcing upon us. The World Calendar with its ordered regularity and exact comparability will make it possible for industry to do its manifold planning with clearer vision and greater accuracy, for it is a mathematically sound and reasonable instrument.

Labor is big business. It is just as big and vital as capital with its moneys, management which plans and directs, and the people who buy or sell the product.

In fact, our business world is founded, one might say, on the foursquare principle of capital, labor, management and consumer. When these four groups receive equal recognition and when each is given the freedom and right to work to its fullest and best capacity, all cooperating harmoniously as one whole unit, much of the present dissatisfaction and difficulty to which the present calendar contributes will be removed.

It is interesting to observe that The World Calendar in its arrangement is also based on the foursquare principle, as each of the quarter-years is identical in arrangement, wherein the four calendar units—day, week, month and quarter-year (equivalent to a season)—agree perfectly.

The headaches and the agonies of uncertainty and confusion as to whether

opérations que l'époque actuelle impose. Le Calendrier Mondial, d'une régularité constante et permettant les comparaisons exactes, donnera à l'industrie la possibilité d'élaborer ses combinaisons multiples avec une vision plus claire et plus de précision. C'est un instrument d'une justesse mathématique, logique.

Le travail, c'est aussi les affaires. Il est égal en importance au capital avec ses espèces, à l'administration qui prévoit et qui dirige, et aux hommes qui achètent ou vendent les produits.

En fait, notre monde des affaires a ses assises, pourrait-on dire, dans le quadruple principe du capital, du travail, de l'administration et du consommateur. Lorsque chacun de ces quatre groupements sera l'objet d'une considération égale à celle des autres, qu'il acquerra la liberté et le droit de travailler d'un rendement maximum, tous agissant de concert en parfaite unité, une grande partie du mécontentement et des difficultés auxquels le calendrier actuel contribue seront éliminés.

Il est intéressant de noter que Le Calendrier Mondial s'ordonne lui aussi d'après un quadruple principe; les trimestres sont disposés d'une manière identique, à l'intérieur desquels les quatre unités du calendrier—de jour, de semaine, de mois et de trimestre (l'équivalent d'une saison)—concordent pleinement.

L'énervement, l'anxiété et le trouble qui s'ensuivent de ne pas savoir si tel jour férié, disons le jour de Noël, tombe un dimanche, un lundi, un mardi, un mercredi, un jeudi, un vendredi ou un samedi, sont abolis. Avec le jour de Noël, qui revient automatiquement un lundi, sa date bien connue et aimée du 25 décembre est maintenue. Cet événement heureux contri-

buera à faire savourer pleinement l'organisation préalable de ce jour et ses préparatifs, comme le jour de fête lui-même. Finis ces jours de Noël arrivant d'une manière importune en plein milieu de la semaine, pour interrompre le cours normal des affaires et diminuer le plaisir de ce jour.

Etant donné le caractère civil du Calendrier Mondial, réforme soumise à l'autorité des gouvernements, ses partisans n'ont pas proposé de date fixe en ce qui concerne le jour de Pâques. Ils se rendent pleinement compte que le choix de ce jour est du domaine des autorités religieuses de la chrétienté.

De même, les jours de fêtes nationales deviennent fixes. C'est dire qu'ils peuvent être organisés plus facilement et avec plus de certitude. Par exemple, la Journée du travail, que l'on continuera à célébrer le 1^{er} mai en Europe, reviendra tous les ans à jour fixe: le mercredi.

La Journée Mondiale, W Décembre, nouveau jour férié célébré dans la monde entier, termine l'année. Le jour de l'an revenant chaque fois le dimanche 1^{er} janvier et qui suit immédiatement la Journée Mondiale, la coutume voulant que soit célébré le lundi un jour de fête tombant le dimanche est abolie. Ainsi, un jour de vacances auparavant célébré le lundi est reporté sur la nouvelle Journée Mondiale. Chaque nouvelle année de travail commencera le lundi 2 janvier.

Un autre jour férié dans le monde entier est celui de l'année bissextile (le nouveau W Juin). Les nombreux avantages qui résultent de la fixation des jours fériés à des dates régulières qui reviennent à jours réguliers, de même l'économie réalisée sous forme de temps, d'argent, de matériel et d'efforts humains, sont, de toute

holidays, let us say Christmas, come on a Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday, disappear. With Christmas automatically coming on Monday, its familiar and cherished date, 25 December, is not lost. The planning and preparation for this feast day and the holiday itself will be thoroughly enjoyed because of this fortunate occurrence. Gone are the vexatious and annoying midweek Christmases which break so frequently into the week, interfering with the smooth flow of business and the enjoyment of the Christmas Day itself.

The World Calendar being a civil reform, subject to the authority of the governments, its advocates do not propose a fixed Easter, fully realizing that the stabilization of this day belongs to the religious authorities of Christendom.

National holidays, too, become steady and can be planned more easily and with greater assurance. For example, Labor Day,* which will continue to be celebrated on 1 May in Europe, will come every year on a fixed weekday: Wednesday.

Worldsday, W December, a new world holiday to be observed throughout the world, closes and seals every year. With New Year's Day always coming on Sunday, 1 January, immediately preceded by Worldsday, the custom of celebrating Sunday holidays the day after on Mondays in this instance is eliminated. Thus a former Monday holiday is transferred to the new Worldsday. Every new business year will always begin with Monday, 2 January.

*Editor's Note: In the United States and also in Canada, Labor Day will continue to be the first Monday in September and will come every year on the fixed date, 4 September.

The Leapyear Day holiday (new W June) is another world holiday observed in leap years. The many advantages gained by having holidays always anchored to their regular days and dates and the saving gained in time, money, material and effort are obviously of great value.

In the case of part-time workers, such as day, hour and piece workers, in their relation to these World Holidays, just and fair adjustments are easily arrived at when one considers the many new benefits acquired with the operation of the perpetual equal-quarter World Calendar—that in arrangement and in effect is “on-the-square.”

It is interesting to note that the movement for a revised calendar was initiated more than a hundred years ago. The original sponsor was the Italian Abbé, Marco Mastrofini, who in 1834 wrote a brochure with the consent of his bishop wherein he introduced the concept of the one or two extra days (365th and 366th days) as outside the week yet belonging within the calendar year. This innovation met with little response at the time, but later calendar reform advocates have supported the idea of the one or two inserted days in a 364-day year. By this method the calendar becomes stable, without endangering its scientific length of 365 days in common years and 366 days in leap years, which keeps the calendar in regular step with the seasons.

About fifteen years later, the French philosopher, Auguste Comte, introduced a 13-month plan which likewise received little attention. In 1887, the newly organized French Astronomical Society offered two prizes for the best calendar plan, both of which went to different versions

évidence, d'importance très considérable.

En ce qui concerne les travailleurs en chômage partiel, qu'ils soient employés à la journée, à l'heure ou à la pièce, il doit être facile de faire des accommodements équitables lorsque l'on prend en considération les nombreux avantages qui résultent de la mise en opération de ce Calendrier Mondial perpétuel à trimestres égaux, "régulier" de par sa disposition et ses effets.

Il est intéressant de noter que le mouvement en faveur d'une révision du calendrier remonte à plus de cent ans en arrière. L'initiateur en fut un Italien, l'abbé Marco Mastrofini, qui écrivit une brochure en 1834, d'accord avec son évêque, où il introduisait la notion d'une ou de deux journées supplémentaires (les 365^e et 366^e jours) hors de la semaine et faisant néanmoins partie du calendrier. Cette suggestion passa presque inaperçue alors. Mais les partisans d'une réforme du calendrier reprirent plus tard la même notion, incorporant cette journée ou ces deux journées supplémentaires dans l'année de trois cent soixante-quatre jours. De cette manière, le calendrier devenait fixe sans que soit porté atteinte à sa mesure scientifiquement établie de trois cent soixante-cinq jours les années courantes et de trois cent soixante-six jours les années bissextiles et sans rompre avec les saisons.

Quinze ans plus tard environ, le philosophe français Auguste Comte présenta un projet de calendrier de treize mois qui n'eut guère de succès non plus. C'est en 1887 que la Société française d'astronomie, alors nouvellement fondée, offrit deux prix pour les meilleurs projets de calendrier. Ceux-là allèrent tous deux à des variantes du calendrier de douze mois.

Son président, Camille Flammarion, écrivait dans son rapport:

"Le chiffre 12 s'adapte mieux aux habitudes de l'homme et à ses besoins que le chiffre 13. En outre, l'idée d'une simplification ne devrait jamais aller jusqu'à tomber dans la monotonie. Or, c'est ce que ferait un calendrier de treize mois."

C'est au XX^e siècle seulement que ce mouvement connut un renouveau. Il trouva des appuis dans le monde des affaires, soutenu par une organisation connue plus tard sous la dénomination de "Chambre internationale de commerce." Après les réunions bisannuelles tenues par cet organisme, en 1910-1912, alors que la réforme du calendrier ralliait les suffrages, la Suisse fut invitée, en 1914, à en faire un examen attentif en vue d'un compte rendu à la réunion suivante, indiquant lequel des projets avait sa préférence. La première guerre mondiale mit obstacle à ce projet digne d'intérêt.

En 1923, la Ligue des nations, pressentie par ce même organisme international d'affaires, prit la réforme du calendrier en sérieuse considération et après plusieurs années d'études réunissait une conférence internationale traitant de la question, en 1931, laquelle n'aboutissait à rien. Des deux cents et quelques projets qui lui avaient été soumis, deux seulement survécurent: celui de treize mois et celui de douze mois à trimestres égaux. La délégation suisse, lors de cette conférence soutint vigoureusement Le Calendrier Mondial de douze mois et trimestres égaux. La Suisse peut à juste titre s'enorgueillir de ce précieux service.

La question à nouveau fut renvoyée aux divers gouvernements en vue d'une étude plus approfondie des deux projets. En 1937, Le Calendrier Mondial seulement était présenté sous forme de projet de convention par le Chili au conseil de la ligue.

of the 12-month revision. In his report, Camille Flammarion, its president, wrote:

"The number 12 is better adapted to human habits and needs than the number 13. Furthermore, no effort to simplify should be carried so far that it falls into monotony, and a 13-month calendar would be monotonous."

The movement lagged until the twentieth century when it was taken up seriously by the business world—by an organization that was later to be known as the International Chamber of Commerce. After this organization's biennial meetings in 1910 and 1912 approving calendar reform, Switzerland was asked, in 1914, to make a careful study and to report at the next meeting what plan it considered the best. World War I interfered with this laudable project.

In 1923, at the request of this same international business group, the League of Nations took the revision of the calendar under serious consideration and, after several years of study, called an international conference on the subject in 1931, which resulted in a disappointing stalemate. Two plans, the 13-month and the one of 12 months and equal quarters, survived out of more than 200 plans submitted. At this conference the delegation from Switzerland vigorously upheld The World Calendar of 12 months and equal quarters. It performed a yeoman act for which Switzerland can be justly proud.

The subject was again referred to the various governments and further study was requested on the two plans. In 1937, only The World Calendar was presented in a draft convention by Chile to the Council of the League, the 13-month calendar having been eliminated. The League submitted this draft to its member and

non-member states. Fourteen governments approved in principle, thereby laying a strong foundation upon which to build and secure further support. But again war clouds threatened the progress of the movement and later the war itself prevented the necessary action to adopt internationally this needed and worthy reform.

Today, the question is still with us. What will Labor do? Will Labor delay? Or will it, with foresight and determination, assist in bringing The World Calendar into operation? . . .

Labor, faced with many important problems, realizes that with a logical rearrangement of the present calendar many of its irritating inconveniences will be eliminated.

Labor cannot but be aware of the uncertainties, waste of time, money and effort caused by the haphazard variability of the calendar that denies comparability, all of which are but a few of the obstructions imposed upon it and its partners in business—capital, management and the consumer. It knows how to evaluate the prime importance of time and recognizes the need for immediate action. Now is the time to reshape the calendar so that it will be an aid to Labor and create fairer conditions of employment. Labor is playing a vital part in the building of a new world and its efforts and support for this new time-plan are indispensable.

Therefore, in this field where its interests are so clearly involved, let Labor place itself in the vanguard by supporting The World Calendar and sounding the clarion call for its universal acceptance, so that . . . there may be introduced into our time-reckoning and into our lives a greater sense of stability, security and harmony.

Celui de treize mois avait été éliminé. Ce plan soumis par la ligue à l'attention de ses Etats membres et non membres recueillit une approbation de principe de quatorze gouvernements, laquelle constituait une pierre de soutènement solide pour construire et obtenir d'autres appuis. Mais encore une fois les nuages de la guerre en menaçaient le progrès, tandis qu'un peu plus tard la guerre elle-même rendait impossible l'action nécessaire pour que soit adoptée internationalement cette réforme nécessaire et digne d'intérêt.

Aujourd'hui, la même question se pose: Quelle sera l'attitude des travailleurs? Attendront-ils? Ou bien, faisant preuve de prévoyance et de détermination, seconderont-ils la mise en oeuvre du Calendrier Mondial? . . .

Les travailleurs sont conscients des incertitudes, des pertes de pleinement conscience qu'un remaniement logique du calendrier actuel éliminerait un certain nombre de désagréments d'une nature irritante.

Les travailleurs sont conscients des incertitudes, des pertes de temps, d'argent,

d'efforts qu'occasionne l'instabilité d'un calendrier variant au petit bonheur et qui nous prive d'éléments de comparaison, pour ne citer que quelques-uns des obstacles à surmonter pour eux aussi bien que pour leurs partenaires en affaires: employeurs, administrateurs et consommateurs. Ils savent évaluer l'importance primordiale du temps et reconnaître la nécessité d'une action immédiate. C'est maintenant que doit être remanié le calendrier pour le rendre à même de prêter son concours aux travailleurs et d'établir des conditions plus justes d'emploi. Jouant comme il le fait un rôle capital dans l'établissement d'un monde nouveau, on ne saurait se passer du concours et de l'appui du nouveau calendrier.

Que les travailleurs, dans ce domaine où leurs intérêts sont nettement engagés, se placent d'eux-mêmes à l'avant-garde du mouvement en faveur du Calendrier Mondial, sonnant l'appel pour qu'il soit reconnu à travers le monde, de sorte que . . . voie s'introduire dans notre mesure du temps et dans notre existence, une plus grande stabilité, sécurité et harmonie.

Y'SDOM INTENSIFIES SUPPORT

THE International Association of Y's Men's Clubs, which at its international convention in August 1948 voted to "endorse World Calendar Reform and urge adoption of the new calendar" has informed The World Calendar Association that it has decided to intensify its efforts to promote The World Calendar. To this end, Mr. Lawrence B. Smith of Woodstock, N. B., Canada, has been appointed chairman of The World Calendar Reform Committee for the World Outlook Department of the International Association of Y's Men.

U. S. LABOR Faces Loss of \$461,723,328 in 1952 Caused By Our Antiquated Calendar!

The Office of Business Economics of the U. S. Department of Commerce was consulted to determine if this is a reasonable and accurate economic projection. The answer was: "We have checked the basic figures on employment and hourly earnings used in the calculations of the direct loss to labor and they are in agreement with official data of the Government."

Cost Expectancy to Labor

FROM the table on page 172, it is readily apparent that there are six isolated weekdays which will occur in 1952, caused by the wandering holidays of the present Gregorian calendar. These days will vitally affect both Industry and Labor. It is also apparent from the table on page 172 that no such problem will occur when the United Nations adopts The World Calendar.

A survey of Labor absenteeism on such isolated work-days as determined for a large mass production industry in the United States (1941 figures as furnished by the Canadian Department of Labor, Economics and Research Branch) showed 120 days per 1,000 workers. This loss occurred over the week of the United States Thanksgiving holiday in 1941. Applying this yardstick to 1948 statistics, and projecting this information to 1952, the following results are achieved:

In 1948 there was a total of 59,378,000 workers annually employed in the

United States. Their average salary was \$1.35 per hour; which is \$10.80 per 8-hour day. Since the absenteeism yardstick established above is 120 days per 1,000 workers, this would mean that $120 \times 59,378$, or 7,125,360, days of labor are lost for each isolated business day or weekday.

Since there are six of these days occurring in 1952, a total of $6 \times 7,125,360$, or 42,752,160, days of labor can reasonably be expected to be lost in the calendar year of 1952.

Hence, \$10.80 (average daily wage) \times these lost days will give a total of \$461,723,328 that Labor can expect to lose in 1952, caused by our present changeable calendar.

Cost Expectancy to American Industry

In 1946 (last available figures) the total amount in dollars of corporate sales by industries was \$136,906,000,000.

Naturally, if Labor absenteeism will

amount to approximately \$461,000,000, then this can be expected to reflect on the total value of production of Industry, cutting a very sizeable sum from total corporate sales mentioned above.

Under The World Calendar such a costly situation would never occur as the calendar would always be perpetual, remaining the same year after year with days and dates always fixed as well as all holidays. (See table below.)

Conclusion

American Industry and Labor should be awakened to the sizeable amount in dollars they are losing under the present medieval time-system. Also, it is reasonable to assume that other nations of the world would benefit in a comparable manner. Furthermore, these huge savings would reflect beneficially on the heavily burdened American taxpayer, and free moneys for other more worth-while purposes.

ISOLATED WEEKDAYS IN 1952 *

Caused by

WANDERING HOLIDAYS

in

PRESENT GREGORIAN CALENDAR

New Year's Day	Falls On	Tues., 1 Jan.	Isolating	Mon., 31 Dec.
Lincoln's Birthday	" "	Tues., 12 Feb.	"	Mon., 11 Feb.
Washington's Birthday	" "	Fri., 22 Feb.	"	Sat., 23 Feb.
Memorial Day	" "	Fri., 30 May	"	Sat., 31 May
Independence Day	" "	Fri., 4 July	"	Sat., 5 July
Labor Day	" "	Mon., 1 Sept.	"	None
Columbus Day	" "	Sun., 12 Oct.	"	None
Armistice Day	" "	Tues., 11 Nov.	"	Mon., 10 Nov.
Thanksgiving Day	" "	Thurs., 27 Nov.	"	None
Christmas Day	" "	Thurs., 25 Dec.	"	None
			Total	6 days

THE WORLD CALENDAR

New Year's Day	Falls On	Sun., 1 Jan.	Isolating	None
Lincoln's Birthday	" "	Sun., 12 Feb.	"	"
Washington's Birthday	" "	Wed., 22 Feb.	"	"
Memorial Day	" "	Thurs., 30 May	"	"
Independence Day	" "	Wed., 4 July	"	"
Labor Day	" "	Mon., 4 Sept.	"	"
Columbus Day	" "	Thurs., 12 Oct.	"	"
Armistice Day	" "	Sat., 11 Nov.	"	"
Thanksgiving Day	" "	Thurs., 23 Nov.	"	"
Christmas Day	" "	Mon., 25 Dec.	"	"
			Total	None

*While many industries now have a five-day week there are still others, notably retail distribution, where the six-day week is usually employed.

For industries on a five-day week, holidays falling on Fridays do not isolate the Saturdays, but holidays falling on Thursdays isolate the Fridays.

ENDORSEMENTS

PROPONENTS of The World Calendar will be interested in this report of support given recently by important organizations—two in Canada and one in Colombia.

The TRADES AND LABOR CONGRESS OF CANADA, at its Convention in Montreal, 11-15 September 1950, officially adopted the following resolution:

Resolution No. 214.—Whereas the present calendar is irregular as to its divisions, unpredictable as to its dates, unsatisfactory in its varying holiday occurrences, and other anniversaries which adversely affect all workers, industry and business generally;

And whereas The World Calendar, as proposed, being fixed as to all dates, having equal quarter years, is regular and balanced;

And whereas The World Calendar involves a minimum of departure from the present system and would at the same time greatly simplify the keeping and comparison of vital and other statistics, as it has the same monthly conditions from year to year;

Therefore be it resolved: That this Convention record its desire that the Government of Canada should support all proper moves made to bring about a more orderly, balanced, fixed calendar, and favour adoption of the 12 month equal quarters plan embodied in The World Calendar;

And be it further resolved: That this Convention in endorsing The World Calendar, direct the President to send a copy of this resolution to the Right Honourable, the Prime Minister, and to Honourable, The Secretary of State for External Affairs with the request that the Government of Canada give every consideration to this resolution as a request of The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

On 27 June 1950, official notification was received from the CANADIAN TELEPHONE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION that a letter has been forwarded by them to the Secretary of State for External Affairs for Canada, which reads as follows:

"The Canadian Telephone Employees' Association, a telephone worker's union, representing eleven thousand telephone crafts and clerical people located in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, having given consideration and study to the proposal that the Gregorian Calendar should be revised and simplified, has reached the conclusion that The World Calendar incorporates the desired changes, and recommends that The World Calendar be adopted."

From the ACADEMIA COLOMBIANA DE CIENCIAS EXACTAS, FISICO-QUIMICAS Y NATURALES (Colombian Academy of Exact Sciences, Physical and Natural Chemistry), in Bogota, has come word that at its session on 5 September 1950 The World Calendar was presented to the consideration of the Academy, with the result that the following resolution, which has been translated into English, was approved:

"The Colombian Academy of Exact Sciences, Physical and Natural Chemistry, considering that The World Calendar Reform results in the practical betterment of human relations, adds its vote of support and approval to that noble campaign.—(signed) Belisario Ruiz Wilches, President of the Academy.—Alfredo D. Bateman, Secretary."

A CALENDAR IN TUNE WITH THE TIMES

Reprinted from "The Ottawa Citizen." Canada, 29 September 1950

ENDORSEMENT of The World Calendar by the Trades and Labor Congress at its recent Montreal convention adds yet another powerful backer to the universal campaign for calendar reform. Widely approved in most countries by labor and industry, the balanced, regular and perpetually uniform World Calendar is also advocated in Canada by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, the Canadian Congress of Labor, the Canadian Retail Federation and many other large industrial and professional organizations.

Compared with the confusing Gregorian calendar now in use, The World Calendar is the answer to an accountant's prayer. Each month would have exactly 26 working days. Days and dates would agree from year to year, as would the anniversaries of all statutory holidays. Quarters would be regularized, each having three months in a pattern of 31, 30 and 30 days. In contrast, the present calendar, once a reform measure itself, has months of different length whose number of business days vary eccentrically from 24 to 27. Dates never come twice in succession on the same week-day. The plotting of work schedules and pay-roll adjustments on the basis of the Gregorian calendar involves much unnecessary inconveniences and expense.

Calendar reform proposals do not follow the same pattern, but all of them seek to regularize the computation of dates and time intervals. These proposals, and notably that of The World Calendar Association, may be discussed by the United Nations General Assembly. So far both the Canadian and United States Governments have declined to endorse The World Calendar, although other Governments have done so. It is to be hoped that international accord may be reached on this constructive reform project.

GREGORIAN CALENDAR

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

THE WORLD CALENDAR

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	
20	21	22	23	24	25	
27	28	29	30			

This Modern Age

We've sold the old buggy, and Nelly, our nag,
 And made fancy creases in trousers that bag;
 We've discarded the sooty old kerosene lamp,
 As well as the water pump, dangerous and damp;
 We've ditched silent movies and phonograph horns,
 And even got rid of the shoes causing corns;
 We've lighted our ball fields to play after dark,
 And put television for all in the park.

BUT as for the calendar, badly outmoded,
 Like pipes that are rusty and scarred and corroded,
 We still use the precious Gregorian brand,
 And cause ourselves grief every turn of the hand.
 We let February, the shortest of brothers,
 Compete with the thirty-day months, and the others;
 We watch how the holidays hop through the week,
 While we, with our feature-dates, play hide-and-seek.
 Confess it, each one of you—oh, what a sap,
 To try to chase Easter all over the map.
 No wonder we have the numerical blues—
 Who'd want to be in Father Time's shoes?
 Can't we have common sense in our calendar rations?
 Let's look for relief to the United Nations!

William Eben Schultz
 Department of English
 Illinois Wesleyan University
 Bloomington, Illinois



Illustrations by John Foote

A NEW CALENDAR

The following article by "Uncle Dudley," which is reprinted from the editorial page of the Boston Sunday Globe for 16 August 1950, is the only one of the many fine pieces that have appeared in the press in support of the adoption of The World Calendar under the aegis of the United Nations.

THE advocates of calendar reform—in this case, the advocates of The (with a capital T) World Calendar—have the highest hopes that the General Assembly of the United Nations, when it comes together in September,* will take the first steps leading to world-wide acceptance of their stable and balanced calendar. According to their time-table, if the United Nations delegates a committee to consider the plan during 1950, approval by the world organization may confidently be expected in 1951, countries could ratify the proposal in 1952, and the calendar itself might become effective on 1 January 1956, when both the present and proposed calendars coincide.

Already The World Calendar Association can count upon the support of many United Nations delegates. A year ago, Panama offered the plan for consideration. Ten of the fourteen nations on the

General Committee were reported ready to vote—with Russia, Poland, Pakistan and Brazil abstaining—when the United States delegate, Warren Austin, asked for postponement, on the plea that the agenda was already overloaded. A deadlock developed on this issue, and delay won the day.

But a hard core of support is ready for renewal of the petition, the expressed opinion of several countries is for The World Calendar or for its acceptance if a majority favor it, and The World Calendar Association and its friends have spent a year bombarding the State Department, which gave Mr. Austin his instructions, with facts and figures intended to convince it that convenience and economy, and even international good will, will be served by consideration of a calendar change.

No one is likely to argue that our present calendar, though we are accustomed to it and have a useful working rule—the little verse that begins “Thirty days hath September”—for dealing with its idiosyncrasies, is not a most confusing arrangement. “Why,” small children ask their parents, “are there only 28 days in February, when there are 31 in March?” And neither Father nor Mother knows.

There is no 28-day month in The World

* Editor's Note: See Editorial, page 129.

Calendar. It divides the year into four equal quarters, each of 91 days. It gives 31 days each to January, April, July and October, the first months of the quarters, and every other month has 30. There is further uniformity. The first month of each quarter begins on a Sunday, the second month of each quarter begins on a Wednesday, and the third month on a Friday. Each month has the same number of weekdays—26.

This arrangement takes care of 364 days. The 365th day of the normal year, which the Association calls "W," or Worldsday, though it might also be known as 31 December, has no weekday designation; it would fall between Saturday, 30 December, and Sunday, 1 January, and would be a world holiday—dedicated, perhaps, to improvement of international friendship (for which the world could well spare one day out of 365). The extra day of leap year would similarly be observed as a world holiday; it would fall between 30 June and 1 July and, like Worldsday, would not disturb the even distribution of the weekdays of either quarter.

According to this program, all American holidays would also fall on the same day of the week each year, as Labor Day and Thanksgiving do now—New Year's Day on a Sunday, Washington's Birthday on a Wednesday, Boston's Evacuation Day on a Sunday, 19 April on a Thursday, Memorial Day on a Thursday, Bunker Hill Day on a Sunday, Columbus Day on a Thursday, Armistice Day on a Saturday, and Christmas on a Monday. The "first Tuesday after the first Monday" in November, Election Day, would fall on the 7th of that month. The 23d of November would probably be chosen over

the 30th of November for the Thanksgiving observance, and Boston's other great festivals of that season—the football games between Harvard and Yale and between Boston College and Holy Cross—would occur annually on 18 November and 23 November.

The arguments for calendar revision in this manner are convenience, reliability and simplicity. "A calendar," said a spokesman for a Canadian learned society which favors this one, "should not be irritating." The number of business and industrial organizations all over the world which endorse The World Calendar indicate that our present one is an irritant to economists and statisticians. The records of business could be better kept, and forecasts and plans all the more accurate, if the quarters of the year were uniform and each year was precisely like its predecessor.

The Association has letters from time-conscious railroad executives who support the change. "Not wishing to act in a perfunctory manner," wrote Norman Call, President of the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac, "I had our Comptroller make a very careful analysis of this proposed Calendar, and I am advised that its adoption would materially help in a comparison of our accounts of revenues and expenses, one period or month with another, and the fact that it provides that certain holidays will always fall on certain days of the week has very decided advantages. . . The World Calendar would also facilitate the making up of the pay rolls, and the working days in each month would be comparable."

It will be noted that the isolated work-days which have long plagued business are avoided by the new arrangement;

there are no Tuesday or Friday holidays which, though they assure pleasure seekers long week-ends, also cost industry heavy losses in production schedules and wage earners as much as \$75,000,000 a day in pay, in those establishments that close their doors on the Monday or Saturday of the holiday period. It is estimated that twice this year, on 29 May and on 3 July, 120 days of labor were lost for every 1,000 workers employed; in 1952 there will be six isolated holidays like this year's Memorial Day and Independence Day, and the workers' loss will be consequently greater. We mark time now in a fashion that is not only awkward, but expensive.

The present calendar, which has been in use since 1582, was itself a reform measure. Pope Gregory XIII approved it—its author was a Neapolitan astronomer-physician named Luigi Lilio Ghiraldi and it was whipped into final form by the mathematician Clavius—because it corrected a grievous fault in the existing calendar, which was based on the false assumption that a year was precisely 365½ days long. Proponents of The World Calendar like to point out that the Gregorian, adjusted to the requirements of the sixteenth century, can scarcely be expected to fit the requirements of an age that has supplanted the chariot with the

automobile and the airplane and has substituted mass production on an assembly line for the handwork of master and apprentice.

Not all our calendar customs would pass with a change to a perpetual pattern. It is true that The World Calendar, fixed in form, could be chiseled in marble or cast in steel for kitchen or office. But so long as housewives continue to circle dates of dentist appointments and bridge parties, so long as calendar margins are used for records of milk delivery or penciled memoranda of phone calls, so long as pretty girls and handsome scenery are considered decorative on a wall, just so long would the annual calendar be welcomed in the home or the business establishment. The calendar printing industry need not lose heart. It could carry on, with an overhead slightly reduced by elimination of annual change in make-up.

We adjust our lives twice each year, in April when we set the clock to Daylight Saving Time and in September when we return to Standard Time, to changes more radical and more difficult than this one promises to be. There seems to be no valid reason why Americans should block a United Nations vote on the proposal, and there seems to be good reasons why many of them would endorse the new calendar for this country.

THE need for improving our present calendar has been experienced by me, as a Management Consultant, in the handling of voluminous chronological data of large industrial enterprises and railroads.

A study of the proposed World Calendar gives proof of much improvement over our existing calendar.

*George E. F. Saum
Management Counselor
Organization—Production
New York, N. Y.*

COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER

by Dr. Henry Smith Leiper
Associate General Secretary
*The World Council of Churches**

At the time of the Fourth Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly, September 1949, Dr. Leiper sent the following telegram to General Romulo, the President:

"Although no official collective action has been taken by the 156 denominations in 44 countries constituent to The World Council of Churches (which comprises the great majority of all Protestants together with representative cross section of Orthodoxy) the predecessor body—the Universal Christian Council—with the same constituency took official favorable action for five successive meetings during my term as Executive Secretary and its surveys indicate overwhelmingly favorable opinion concerning desirability of calendar reform to provide fixed date for Easter and other Christian Festivals and to bring harmony between different parts of Christian world now without common calendar through adoption of World Calendar."

REFORMS which have benefited mankind most through the ages have been targets for opposition, and the revision of the civil calendar by means of The World Calendar is no exception. There seems to exist a law that new factors, new things must ever struggle for adoption, and that this struggle belongs to growth, to progress.

Witness Standard Time that met with religious opposition on the assumption it interfered with what was called "God's time," yet today Standard Time is every-

where accepted, notwithstanding a six or an eight-day week made necessary at the International Date Line. These short and long weeks do not change the regular seven-day week in the slightest degree, just as a 23- or 25-hour day (experienced when passing from one time-zone to the next) does not alter the regular 24-hour day.

The premise then that the regular sequence of the seven-day week shall not be interrupted by the introduction of an extra day is likewise without foundation.

Come Now, and Let Us Reason Together—Isaiah 1:18

* Approximate membership of 160,000,000 and 160 Protestant and Orthodox denominations in 45 countries.

The perpetual World Calendar still retains the seven-day week in the familiar unchanged order; it still begins with Sunday and ends with Saturday. It still has seven days in the week and there are still 52 weeks in the year. The World Calendar with the extra day at the close of every year assures stability for the calendar, at the same time that it retains the astronomical accuracy of the 365-day seasonal year. The leap-year day is similarly treated by placing this extra day in the mid-year every four years omitting only the centurial years not divisible by 400. By this method The World Calendar, like the Gregorian, conforms to the scientific length of the year.

Unlike the adoption of the Gregorian calendar, however, this revision will not involve the dropping of ten days, incurring the loss of two Saturdays and two Sundays.

The extra World Holiday—Worldsday—the closing day of the year that comes between two weeks, and the World Holiday—the Leapyear Day—that comes in mid-year in leap years are each extensions of a day linked by a bridge connecting two successive weeks. It was a Roman Catholic priest, Abbot Marco Mastrofini, who in 1834 conceived the idea of a 364-day year with the one or two extra days. Civilization and mankind owe him a very real debt.

There is another contention that since time immemorial there has been an *unbroken continuity* of the seven-day week. This assumption is challenged, even by eminent Jewish scholars, whose research and writing call for serious consideration. They have successfully proved that in antiquity there have been weeks with an occasional intercalated eighth day. I refer

to the article: "The Origin of the Week and the Oldest West Asiatic Calendar," published in the seventeenth volume of the *Hebrew Union College Annual*, Cincinnati, and also to the *Journal of Calendar Reform*, Fourth Quarter 1946, pages 171-178.

Biblical proof of the use of an ancient calendar consisting of a cycle of fifty days is discovered in the narrative of the flood wherein frequent mention is made of seven days and 150 days. Heretofore the 150 days, not understood, were glossed over and did not receive the same significance and emphasis as the seven days. We now know, however, that the 150 days are to be interpreted as meaning a series of three cycles of fifty days each, a cycle representing seven times seven plus one day. In this manner an eighth day or fiftieth day was added to the final week making a cycle of fifty days, known as a "pentecontad." See *Leviticus 23: 15-16*.

Opponents consistently stress the difficulty of the wandering Sabbath in maintaining their religious observance of the unbroken sequence of the Sabbath, which The World Calendar, because of the extra days, would impose upon them. The wandering Sabbath, they claim, would cause real economic and civil hardship and would deny them the freedom of religion guaranteed by the Constitution.

Now freedom of religion means the free exercise of the tenets and creeds of any religion; the right to worship and observe feast days and holy days within various religious calendars. The World Calendar, civil and scientific in character, respects and gives to all religions full right to observe their religious customs, feast and holy days as they wish. The Jew, Mohammedan and Christian are still

free to worship on their customary days.

The Constitution does not in any way guarantee freedom from economic hardship which the belief and custom might impose upon believers because their particular beliefs and customs vary from the belief and custom of the majority. It does not grant any obstructionist the power or the right to deny to the rest of the nation the privilege of using a civil calendar more fitting to the present-day needs.

Dr. Julian Morgenstern, while President of the Hebrew Union College, wrote: "Of course, should our Government ever officially recognize the civil World Calendar, American Jews would accept this calendar readily and employ it for civil purposes. It would then become their responsibility to find a way to harmonize their traditional religious observances with the new and now official calendar. They have faced this problem before and found a solution. And I have no doubt that they could do it again if the need arises." This statement by an eminent liberal Jew offers a reasonable and reconcilable solution which can well be emulated by every one.

Inasmuch as the International Date Line with its six or eight-day week, of which mention has been made, is universally accepted, is it not possible that the protesting attitude is based on the economic as well as the religious aspect? No economic difficulty is experienced when crossing the International Date Line and perhaps this is one reason these six or eight-day weeks have been generally accepted. The economic adjustment incurred with the so-called "wandering Sabbath" would be self-imposed because of individual and particular beliefs which are at variance with the vast majority.

The question now arises: Shall The World Calendar, which stabilizes our days along scientific and mathematical lines, be denied to the world because of the opposition of minority groups? Must *all our days* continue to wander throughout the calendar in order to prevent *one* wandering day for the opposition of the minority because of their own particular religion?*

It seems a strange argument coming from a people who in their own religious calendar employ intercalated periods of an occasional extra month, and who have not accepted the Julian or the Gregorian calendars and need not accept The World Calendar in *their religious life*.

The eminent minister and Biblical scholar of Oriental languages, the late Dr. Herbert L. Willett, whom the Jews affectionately introduced at a dinner as "an honorary rabbi, whose knowledge of our people, their language and traditions matches our ablest teachers" has said:

"When the priestly writer of the creation narrative recorded his version of the beginnings of life he put it in the form to which his people had grown accustomed, the work of a week with rest on the seventh day. The Hebrews observed the week as the accepted norm of time, although it was not until later generations, and particularly after the great dispersion, that Sabbath observance was enforced with strictness. . . . It is difficult to conceive of weeks and designated days in the incalculable stretches of time from the beginnings of world-structure to the days of Hebrew history. The picture of a seven-day week and a day of rest given in the first chapter of Genesis must be regarded as the accepted pattern of time in the late

days of the priestly writer rather than as a cosmic and divine scheme."

In all fairness and giving whatever religious opposition that may exist every consideration, shall mankind progress with a stable and ordered World Calendar or retrogress and stand still by clinging to an inferior, shifting and irregular one?

In addition, Christians have been seriously criticized by the Seventh-Day Adventists for having changed the Sabbath to the Sunday for their day of worship. This was done wholly and naturally by the Christians to commemorate the "Resurrection."

I quote from *Funk and Wagnall's New Standard Bible Dictionary*, under the sub-title "The Christian Sabbath":

"When Christianity was established as a distinct faith, its adherents, following the example of Jesus, observed the Sabbath with the evident intention of using it as a means of spiritual edification. At the same time, the custom arose among them of meeting on the first day of the week in commemoration of the Master's Resurrection (*Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2*). This was called the Lord's Day (*Revelation 1:10*). For a time, the two days were observed together, but for very distinct and different reasons. They were not rival or antagonistic to each other, neither was the Lord's Day substituted for the Sabbath. And yet it was inevitable, as Christianity became more and more clearly differentiated from Judaism, that two days so nearly alike in purpose should be unified and assimilated. This took place in the early years of the Fourth Century of

the Christian era when the ideal Sabbath of Jesus was identified with the Lord's Day, and the Jewish Sabbath fell into disuse, and the conviction grew that it had been abrogated."

Proponents of The World Calendar, while restating its strictly civil nature, can also quote from the Bible.

In *Romans 7:6* we are told to "serve in newness of spirit and not in the oldness of the letter." Jesus admonishes us, "The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath" (*St. Mark 2:27*). Can there be any more direct command than that the days and the calendar were made for man's use, and not for his enslavement? We must not be prisoners to tradition.

The prophet Isaiah's complaint is pertinent here: "Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me . . ." (*Isaiah 1:13*).

In *Revelation 1:10*, we are told that "on the Lord's day" indicates that the Lord's day was then already the new Sunday as we have previously mentioned. The World Calendar is in harmony with the holy dictum "Behold, I make all things new" (*Revelation 21:5*). It is only in the newness of the Spirit that man advances and civilization goes forward with a willingness to accept changes for the betterment of man and therein progress lies.

THE WORLD CALENDAR AND RELIGION

ALTHOUGH calendar reform is a civil matter and one for the jurisdiction of governments, consideration is given religion within The World Calendar.

A Right Beginning and Ending:

Every year and week begins right with a Sunday, the first day of the week, the day of the Lord observed in praise and worship, and every work-year and week ends right with a Saturday, also known as the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week, as a day of rest for work well done. Then follows the 365th day (essential to keep the year in step with the seasons) as a new *civil* world holiday—*Worldsday*—that comes between Saturday, 30 December, and Sunday, 1 January, and is dated W or 31 December, to be universally observed in a spirit of friendship, cooperation and unity.

Ancient Custom Revived:

Worldsday has a precedent in an ancient custom when a 50th day, on which special gifts were offered the Lord, followed a period of seven weeks of seven days each which contained seven Sabbaths (49 days). In this manner, after a cycle of 50 days had ended, a new period of 49

days began which was sealed with another such 50th day. Thus a 50th or extra day was added between series of 49 days or seven times seven weeks. The story of the flood is a proof of this continuous sequence of 50 days (150 days) within which were recognized the seven days. (Leviticus 23:15-16; Genesis 7:24; 8:3.)

Unbroken Weeks Introduced:

During the Babylonian captivity a new doctrine was given the Jews, that of the *unbroken* continuity of seven-day weeks, in the hope that the Sabbath would become more sacred and be more readily observed by them while they were in captivity and in danger of being assimilated. The Sabbath thus lost its original independence and for the first time became identified with the idea of the unbroken weeks. In the days prior to the captivity, the Sabbath observance did not have the same significance that it attained during the exile. The *unbroken* seven-day week was not known in the days of Abraham, Isaac and Joseph.

Let Us Remember:

When peoples from the Americas travel to Asia and cross the International Date Line a day is lost, so that a six-day week

is experienced. In reverse, when Asiatic peoples or travellers voyage to the Americas, an extra day is added which makes an eight-day week. Thus, on *every day of the year*, the sequence of seven-day weeks is broken, yet in no way does this nullify the seven-day week as a time-unit in the calendar.

In 1834, the Italian Roman Catholic priest, Abbé Marco Mastrofini, originated the idea of the one or two extra days added to a year of 364 days, and his book received three Nihil Obstat and two Imprimaturs. His purpose was to stabilize the days and dates in the calendar at the same time maintaining the seasonal year.

Significant Scriptural Quotations:

"Bring no more vain oblations . . . the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with. . . . Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me. . . ."—Isaiah 1:13-14.

"Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come;"—Colossians 2:16-17.

"The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath."—St. Mark 2:27.

". . . we should serve in newness of spirit and not in the oldness of the letter."—Romans 7:6.

". . . for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."—2 Corinthians 3:6.

"Behold, I make all things new."—Revelation 21:5.

". . . the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."—Revelation 22:2.

This last quotation can be symbolically interpreted as prophetic of the

new world holidays which in their observance become the *uniting* days of nations.

Religious Comments on The World Calendar by Men of Many Faiths:

The Most Reverend Francisco Beckmann, C. M., Archbishop of Panama:

"Having followed the movement to attain the establishment of a world calendar, I do not see any difficulty by reason of the Catholic dogma and I consider the reform will bring about great advantages."

His Holiness Athenagoras, Patriarch of Constantinople:

"We ask God to strengthen you and bless all your efforts for the betterment and the successfulness of your Calendar."

His Eminence Alfred Cardinal Baudrillard, former Rector of the Catholic Institute of Paris:

"The problem is not new. It has existed since the origin of the Church. . . . A few years ago, Pius XI was inclined to admit the proposition. This question is, besides, absolutely free from the dogmatic point of view . . . the Pope is of the opinion that the thing can be done and that there would be great advantages."

The Most Reverend D. Germanos, D.D., Archbishop Metropolitan of Thyateira, Exarch of Western and Northern Europe:

"From the viewpoint of the earnest churchman, it has important implications which go far beyond its merits as an improved civil and business measuring rod. . . . The significance of this movement, in its bearing on church unity, is what has won for it the attention and support of church leaders."

Dr. William Adams Brown, Presbyterian Minister, former Professor Emeri-

tus, Union Theological Seminary of New York:

"I am glad, indeed, to have my name associated with something in which I believe so much."

Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, former Honorary Moderator of the Congregational Christian Churches:

"It has vast importance, not only for religion but for the whole world and world's trade and commerce."

Mohandas Gandhi, India:

"It would be a splendid thing if our 350,000,000 people could have a single national unified calendar. . . . I am in favor of a standardized calendar for the whole world. . . . I am always ready to endorse any honest movement which will help to unify the peoples of the world."

The Most Reverend A. B. Kalian, D.D., Archbishop, Syrian Church, Baghdad, Iraq:

"Hoping that your expectation of calendar reform will be fulfilled."

The Right Reverend William T. Manning, D.D., the former Protestant Episcopal Bishop of New York:

"I want to do anything I can to aid in this truly important undertaking."

Dr. T. Albert Moore, former Moderator, United Church of Canada:

"I am confident The World Calendar, when adopted generally, will be appreciated for its many worthy and practical benefits."

The Right Reverend G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist Bishop of New York:

"It is hard for me to understand why it is necessary to spend so many years in educating people to the place wherein they are willing

to make those adjustments that common sense and self-interest demand. There are many good reasons for adopting The World Calendar you propose. I do not know reasons that would justify its rejection."

The Right Reverend Ernest Milmore Stires, D.D., former Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Long Island:

"It has everything to commend it, and I do not know of any reasonable objection which can be advanced against it. It is bound to win."

Dr. C. C. Stoughton, President, Wagner Lutheran College, New York:

"I have long been interested in this reform and shall do all I can to help its accomplishment."

Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, Executive Secretary, The World Council of Churches:

"I hope it will have the attention it deserves."

The Most Reverend Cosmo Gordon Lang, the former Lord Archbishop of Canterbury:

"I am bound to say I have found it impossible to resist the plea for reform in this matter. . . . It would be a real misfortune if this matter were allowed to drift."

Dr. Ephraim Frisch, Rabbi, San Antonio, Texas:

"If the world is going to be benefited by the change of the calendar as proposed, then we Jewish people of the Reform wing at least ought not to stand in the way."

Dr. Julian Morgenstern, President Emeritus of Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, Ohio:

"Should our Government ever officially recognize the civil World Calendar, American Jews would accept this calendar readily and apply it for civil purposes. It would then be

come their responsibility to find a way to harmonize their traditional religious observances with the new and now official calendar."

Dr. Charles Bieler, former Emeritus Professor of Christian Ethics, United Theological College of Canada:

"It is conservative, practical and I hope it will be accepted."

Dr. George S. Arundale, President, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras, India:

"I am strongly in favor of The World Calendar."

Mother Aloysius, former President, Fontbonne College, St. Louis, Missouri:

"Calendar reform will be a blessing to educational institutions and it will be worthwhile to call an international convention to consider the adoption of it."

The Right Reverend George K. A. Bell, D.D., The Lord Bishop of Chichester:

"I am very glad all has gone well with regard to the resolution on Calendar Reform."

Swami Omkar, Minister in South India:
"It is easy to see how happy this arrange-

ment of The World Calendar is for all humanity—regardless of religion or race or nation. It is another step toward the universal brotherhood of man. The World Calendar has therefore my wholehearted approval and support."

Abbé Chauve-Bertrand, France:

"Everything living develops and changes; we must be continually abandoning something of the past in exchange for something better in the future; the most ancient and venerable of traditional institutions must themselves be modified from time to time; and more than once people have regretted that reforms did not come about when they were first desired."

World Benefits:

The World Calendar, one calendar for one world, that in arrangement follows the law of harmony will foster increased world agreement and create a fuller cooperation and understanding among peoples.

In our present world where distance is lessened, communication instantly available, and nations are drawn closer together, The World Calendar is inevitable—a stepping stone for greater world unity and a more abiding peace.

1951 CALENDAR CONTRAST CARDS

MANY persons are familiar with the Calendar Contrast cards of The World Calendar Association. They are two and a half by three and a half inches in size, fitting easily in wallet or purse. Inside is a 1951 calendar and opposite a copy of The World Calendar. On the back cover is a brief comparison of the two calendars. Your friends will be interested if you enclose one in writing them. Copies are free, and will be sent promptly if you will let the Association know how many you can use.

OUTMODED CALENDAR IS EXPENSIVE LUXURY

by W. Earl Hall

AFTER successfully meeting every other argument raised against adoption of The World Calendar, its proponents now are able to present proof that clinging to the present outmoded Gregorian calendar is an expensive luxury. It's dollars out of our pocket—and lots of them—every added day we cling to it.

This showing was accomplished by a referendum conducted among businesses ranging from manufacturing plants of all kinds to banking and insurance, with dozens of lines in between. The testimonial of a majority was:

"We'd be helped financially by an improvement on our present calendar."

Complaints are listed

And here are some of the things that were in their minds in reporting on their dissatisfaction with the present "b'guess and b'gosh" calendar:

There's a variation in the number of weekdays per month. This makes comparisons by months impossible.

There's a variation in the length of the quarters, again making it impossible to draw intelligent comparisons.

This article from the Mason City (Iowa) Globe-Gazette, 14 August 1950, appeared in the column entitled "One Man's Opinion," a radio commentary by Mr. Hall, the Editor.

Holidays hop all over the week, from year to year, falling in mid-week some years and at week-end in other years.

The same thing that makes a holiday do the grasshopper act causes a given date and day one year to differ the next year, with no two successive years alike in this regard.

Expenses pushed up

These weaknesses in the Gregorian calendar manifest themselves in a number of ways, mostly unsatisfactory to both management and labor. For example, a traveling salesman's expenses are appreciably boosted when he must "lay over" at some point in his territory because of a mid-week holiday.

Losses result from ill-timed advertising because of calendar variations; operations in a factory are crippled by holidays which invite an over-long weekend.

A Fourth of July falling on a Tues-

day, for example, has the effect of making the Monday of that week an extremely unsatisfactory work-day.

Six isolated days in 1952

In 1952 alone there will be six such isolated weekdays. New Year's will fall on Tuesday, isolating Monday. The same will be true of Lincoln's birthday on Tuesday, 12 February. Armistice day will fall on a Tuesday too.

Then, at the other end of the week, Washington's birthday will come on Friday, likewise Memorial day and Independence day. Saturday will be set off by itself, with many, if not most of our workers, doubting that it's worth while showing up for duty on that one isolated day.

The total loss chargeable to an antiquated calendar in this single year, 1952, is estimated at \$461,723,328. That's awfully close to a half billion dollars. How accurate the estimate is, I can't say. I only know that the estimate is offered by people who don't ordinarily go off half-cocked.

Borne out by Government

The Office of Business Economics in the United States Department of Commerce was consulted to determine if this is a reasonable and accurate economic projection. Its response:

"We have checked the basic figures on employment and hourly earnings used in the calculations of the direct loss to labor and they are in agreement with official data of the government."

These wandering work-days are the enemy of both industry and labor. They will be with us as long as we cling to our outmoded calendar.

The World Calendar described

But the problem would be almost 100 per cent solved by adopting The World Calendar, the chief marks of which are these:

The World Calendar retains the present 12 months, all names retained.

The World Calendar provides 4 quarters of identical duration—3 months, 13 weeks, 91 days—always the same, never changing.

The World Calendar's months all have 26 weekdays, plus Sundays.

The World Calendar's quarters all start with a Sunday. The first of January is always a Sunday.

The World Calendar every year would have an extra day, following every 30 December and preceding each 1 January. It would be known as Worldsday.

The World Calendar once every 4 years would have a leap-year day, between 30 June and 1 July.

One too many days each year

Our present calendar hodgepodge grows out of the fact that 365, the number of days in the year, isn't exactly divisible by seven, the number of days in a week. Fifty-two times seven is 364. That leaves one dangling, trouble-making day to mess things up generally.

Under The World Calendar approach the one orphan day that causes so much trouble under our present calendar is set aside as Worldsday. That's the really fundamental difference between the Gregorian calendar and The World Calendar. Changes in the length of the various months are incidental to it.

Under The World Calendar we would have a stable, balanced, regular and

logical method for measuring time. Every date and every day would always harmonize from year to year. The Fourth of July would always fall on Wednesday, Christmas always on a Monday, New Year's Day always on a Sunday.

A challenge to you!

I defy anybody not hopelessly prejudiced in advance to make a study of The World Calendar and come up denying that it constitutes a vast improvement over the calendar which has been in use for several centuries. Everybody—laborer, business man, professional man, housewife—would benefit.

Occasionally you meet up with somebody who thinks that adoption of the new calendar would detract from the sanctity of Sunday or other holy days. Such a view is completely without foundation in fact. The present calendar, as well as the many which preceded it, was strictly man-made.

The change has always come about when those in authority recognized that the system for measuring time in use could be improved upon. The Julian calendar was a vast improvement over the one it replaced and the Gregorian calendar was a marked improvement over the Caesarian calendar.

Are we less courageous?

Surely it would be a reflection on our day and age if it developed that we were not as courageous and forward-looking as our forebears of 500 years ago, or 2,000 years ago. We definitely are confronted with an opportunity to adopt a calendar which will be a boon to all mankind.

All right then—what are we waiting for? And the answer to that question is a bit damaging to American pride.

The ironical fact is that the United States has not only failed to give leadership to the desirable plan but in some respects has let itself become a boulder in the path of progress.

But America lags behind

About a score of other nations have taken action calling for calendar reform.

In the American Congress, the bill calling for this has languished in some committee pigeonhole.

More than that the influence of the United States in the United Nations has been against letting the matter come up for consideration. Except for its delegate, the world right now might well be on its way to this long overdue calendar reform.

This regrettable story was written on the afternoon of 21 September, 1949. A newly constituted 14-nation General Committee had been assembled to determine the agenda for the approaching session of the General Assembly. Adoption of The World Calendar was No. 60.

Offer feeble excuse

The United States delegate it was who stood up and asked that consideration of this proposal, offered by the Republic of Panama, be "postponed to a future session." An "overcrowded agenda" was the feeble excuse given by him.

The Panama spokesman rose to say that he thought this was a pretext, not a reason. Agendas always will be crowded, he observed. Chile's representative pointed out that "various delegations" for sev-

eral years had wanted the merits of calendar reform discussed but always had met with a refusal.

In the vote that followed, there was a 4 to 4 tie and, by ruling from the chair, discussion of the item was deferred. A simple majority was needed to obtain action. Thus the world was barred from the benefits of a scientific calendar for at least 6 years. It could have been made effective next 1 January.

Canada on right side

The voting lineup on that occasion was most interesting. The Philippines, the United Kingdom and Denmark joined the United States in its vote for postponement. Canada, China, Chile and Venezuela asked inclusion of the calendar reform on the calendar. Abstaining from voting were Russia, Poland, Pakistan and Brazil, with Greece and France absent.

As a result of this obstructive tactic by America, a new adoption date for The World Calendar has been set. It's Sunday, 1 January, 1956. That will be the earliest date when both the Gregorian calendar and the proposed calendar coincide.

But those who back The World Calendar plan don't discourage easily. The United Nations will be asked again to put the subject on the agenda for consideration. Surely America will not wish to be put in the role of obstructing free discussion on a matter deemed to have large importance.

United Nations must act soon

If The World Calendar is to be translated from theory into reality by that next deadline—1 January, 1956—there

should be a United Nations blessing on it this year, and not later than next year. In this way the member nations of the United Nations will have a full year for ratification. That will leave three years in which to prepare for putting the plan into operation.

I can't believe that our nation, or the world, will continue to ignore a time-measuring plan which has 99 arguments for it to a skimpy 1 against it. That skimpy 1 is that calendar manufacturers would have to readjust their mode of doing business.

The calendar pad itself, of course, under The World Calendar plan, is perpetual. It doesn't have to be changed from year to year. But the calendar art could be—and I've no doubt in most cases would be—changed. Surely our calendar makers are ingenious enough to meet a situation like this.

No despot to order us

In the past, the matter of reforming the calendar has been in the hands of an individual ruler—a Caesar, a Constantine, a Pope. Today we have progressed to a broader concept in our thinking and understanding of the calendar. The change now must be through democratic action.

It's probably too much to hope that our Congress will take some belated action on Senate Bill No. 1415, a measure designed to put America's influence behind The World Calendar. I'm not saying, or suggesting, that it's as important as matters pertaining to national defense.

But I am saying that it's more important than much of the business that will occupy both House and Senate in the months immediately ahead.

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PARAGUAY: Comité Paraguayo del Calendario Mundial, H. E. Señor Ministro Coronel Don Luis Irrazabal, Chairman, Paraguayan Embassy, Lima, Peru.

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PHILIPPINES: The World Calendar Association, International, Affiliate, Ramon Caro, Chairman, 116 Padre Faura, Manila.

POLAND: Polish Committee for Calendar Reform. (The Committee is at present without a Chairman due to the death of Mr. Jakiel.)

SPAIN: The World Calendar Association, International, Affiliate, Rev. Father Antonio Romaña, S.J., Honorary President; Ramon Ximenez Gil de Avalle, Chairman, Sepulveda 94, 1, 4, Barcelona.

SWITZERLAND: The World Calendar Association, International, Affiliate, Prof. Emile Marchand, Chairman, 2, Genferstrasse, Zurich 2.

TURKEY: The World Calendar Association, International, Affiliate, Dr. I. A. Dereoglu, Chairman, Beyoglu, İstiklal Caddesi 485, Istanbul.

UNITED STATES: The World Calendar Association, Inc., International, Affiliate, Elisabeth Achelis, President, 630 Fifth Avenue, New York 20.

URUGUAY: The World Calendar Association, International, Affiliate, Prof. Alberto Reyes Thévenet, Chairman, Liceo "Hector Miranda," Calle Sierra 2274, Montevideo.

YUGOSLAVIA: Yugoslavian Committee on Calendar Reform. (The Committee is at present without a Chairman due to the death of Mr. George Curcin.)